

CITY OF LOCKPORT
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Lockport Municipal Building

Regular Meeting
Official Record

April 9th, 2025
6:00 P.M.

Mayor John Lombardi III called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The following Common Council members answered the roll call:

Aldermen Fogle, Craig, Kirchberger, Lupo, Mullane, Devine

INVOCATION – Mayor John Lombardi III

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESS

Recess for public input.

040925.1

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Alderman Lupo seconded by Alderman Devine the minutes of the Regular meeting of March 26th, 2025 are hereby approved as printed in the Journal of Proceedings. Ayes 6.

FROM THE CITY CLERK

The Clerk submitted payrolls, bills for services and expenses, and reported that the Department Heads submitted reports of labor performed in their departments.

Reviewed by the Finance Committee.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS

040925.2

By Alderman Craig:

Resolved, that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to issue orders in favor of the claimants for payrolls, bills and services to be paid on April 10th, 2025.

Seconded by Alderman Mullane and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.3

By Alderman Mullane:

Resolved that pursuant to the recommendation of Mayor Lombardi, the following are hereby appointed to the Board of Ethics:

Mary Brennan Taylor, 480 Pine Street, Lockport, NY
Kathy Sparks DiMillo, 73 Lincolnshire Drive, Lockport, NY
Anna Mauri, 57 Coolidge Avenue, Lockport, NY

Seconded by Alderman Kirchberger and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.4

By Alderman Fogle:

Resolved that pursuant to their request, Kindred Hearts of Niagara Homecare is hereby granted permission to hold a fundraising event (Vendor Fair) on Main Street in Lockport, between Pine Street and Locust Street, on Sunday June 22nd from 12pm – 4pm and are requesting the following:

- We request to have food trucks, vendors and music set up on Main Street.
- We request to have Lock 34 open their outside patio bar and manage liquor sales. They will pull SLA while we provide them with all pertinent information.
- We request the open container law be waived for the duration of the event.
- We request 10 barricades to be provided by the city and delivered the day before the event.
- Kindred Hearts of Niagara Homecare will be providing public bathroom facilities, food, parking for vendors, a policeman or security guard for the event, a map of the event and vendor layout once completed, will require that all food trucks and vendors have proper documentation and certificates to operate in Niagara County, specifically Lockport, and will issue a certificate of insurance to the City Clerk to cover the event and release the city of liability.

Resolved that the Director of Highways, Parks and Water Distribution is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for “Street Closed” signs and to deliver barricades and cones as requested.

Seconded by Alderman Lupo and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.5 WITHDRAWN

040925.6

By Alderman Fogle:

Whereas the City of Lockport (City), is seeking a grant for the Green Innovation Grant Program, Phase II: Lockport Streetscape Improvements project and intends to submit via the New York Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP); and

Whereas the City project cost estimate for the GIGP Streetscape Phase II Project is \$1,650,000; and

Whereas the GIGP through NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYSEFC) may fund up to 90% of the project cost or \$1,485,000; and

Whereas Nussbaumer & Clarke, Inc. is authorized to prepare a grant application on behalf of the City via the CFA for the GIGP Phase II: Lockport Streetscape Improvements project; and

Whereas the Mayor is required to sign the grant application on behalf of the City as well as a Grant Agreement with the NYSEFC and any and all other contracts, documents, and instruments necessary to bring about the Project if a grant is awarded; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the City authorizes and appropriates a minimum of 10% local match as required by the Green Innovation Grants Program. Under the GIGP, this local match must be at least 10% of the total project of \$1,650,000. The maximum local share appropriated subject to any changes agreed to by the Mayor shall not exceed \$165,000 subject to receipt of a GIGP grant and available funding. The Mayor may increase this local match through the use of in-kind services without further approval from the City; and be it further

Resolved that the Mayor is authorized to sign a grant application on behalf of the City to the NYSEFC Green Innovation Grants Program for the GIGP Phase II: Lockport Streetscape Improvements Project; and be it further

Resolved that should a GIGP grant be awarded to the City, the Mayor is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYSEFC and any and all other contracts, documents and instruments necessary to bring about the Project and to fulfill the City's obligations under the Green Innovation Grants Program through NYSEFC.

Seconded by Alderman Craig and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.7

By Alderman Craig:

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH H. SICHERMAN & COMPANY, INC. FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Whereas a vacancy has existed in the Department Head position within the Community Development Department as of November 26, 2024; and

Whereas the City of Lockport is in need of continued technical and administrative assistance to ensure the uninterrupted operation of Community Development programs, including but not limited to housing rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer assistance, and related grant compliance; and

Whereas the Mayor has recommended entering into a contractual agreement with H. Sicherman & Company, Inc. to provide such support services to the City under the terms outlined in the agreement attached hereto; and

Whereas the agreement includes a weekly labor billing rate of \$800.00 and a schedule of additional hourly rates for services outside the scope of the base agreement, with a term expiring no later than December 31, 2025, and with the ability to terminate by either party with written notice;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Mayor, subject to Corporation Counsel approval, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the agreement between the City of Lockport and H. Sicherman & Company, Inc. for administrative and technical support to the Community Development Department, with compensation and terms as outlined therein.

Seconded by Alderman Mullane and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.8

By Alderman Lupo:

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH HEATHER PECK FOR TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Whereas the City of Lockport desires to ensure a smooth leadership transition in the Community Development Department; and

Whereas Heather Peck, the former head of the Community Development Department, possesses valuable institutional knowledge and program expertise; and

Whereas the City wishes to retain Heather Peck on a contractual basis to provide transitional support and guidance to the incoming department head; and

Whereas such services will be provided at a rate of \$45.00 per hour, not to exceed a total compensation of \$4,500.00, beginning as of March 13, 2025;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Mayor, subject to review and approval by the Corporation Counsel, is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with Heather Peck for transitional support services to the Community Development Department as outlined above.

Seconded by Alderman Kirchberger and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.9

By Alderman Fogle:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH MARY SMITH FOR PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE CITY'S 2024 FISCAL AUDIT

Whereas the City of Lockport is preparing for the 2024 fiscal year audit and seeks to ensure a thorough and efficient audit process; and

Whereas the Finance Department will benefit from temporary professional support during this period of increased workload and detailed financial reporting; and

Whereas Mary Smith possesses extensive experience in municipal finance and audit preparation and is well-qualified to provide such support; and

Whereas the City wishes to retain Mary Smith as an independent contractor to assist the Finance Department, under the direction of the Director of Finance, in preparing for and navigating the 2024 fiscal audit;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Mayor, subject to review and approval by the Corporation Counsel, is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with Mary Smith to provide independent contractor services in support of the 2024 fiscal audit, with such agreement to be effective January 31, 2025, and valid through December 31, 2025.

Seconded by Alderman Craig and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.10

By Alderman Lupo:

Whereas the City of Lockport has established a combined fee schedule for services provided by the City, and;

Whereas the City of Lockport has reviewed its current fee schedule and determined that certain fees need to be updated to cover the operational costs of certain services and maintain fiscal responsibility for the City's budget and;

Whereas the City has reviewed comparable fees in neighboring municipalities and adjusted for inflation, and

Whereas it is in the best interest of the City of Lockport to update the fee schedule for the effective operation and maintenance of City services;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the City Council of Lockport hereby adopts the updated fee schedule, effective as of 4/1/2025.

Be it further resolved, that the updated fee schedule will be published on the City's website;

Be it further resolved, that conflicts with the updated fee schedule are hereby repealed and current fee schedule replaces all previously agreed upon fees.

Seconded by Alderman Kirchberger and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.11

By Alderman Kirchberger:

Whereas the City of Lockport and the Niagara County Sheriff's Office are proposing to install License Plate Reader equipment for Law Enforcement purposes only within State ROW, on or along multiple locations on State routes, located in the City of Lockport, Niagara County, and

Whereas the City of Lockport and the Niagara County Sheriff's Office. are desirous to have such above-mentioned equipment installed within the geographical jurisdiction of the Municipality, and

Whereas the City of Lockport and the Niagara County Sheriff's Office will meet all State and Municipal requirements during the above-mentioned project, and

Whereas the City of Lockport and the Niagara County Sheriff's Office reserves the rights to monitor and inspect the above mentioned project conducted within the geographical jurisdiction of the Municipality, and

Whereas the Niagara County Sheriff's Office will execute the above-mentioned project, as shown on the plans/maps and other documents related to the above-mentioned project funded by the 2023 Governor of NY Grant for New Technology and Equipment to Prevent and Solve Crimes, Improve Public Safety apportioned and approved for the MUNICIPALITY or for Niagara County Sheriff's Office

Now therefore be it resolved, that the City of Lockport, by means of this Resolution, and upon NYSDOT approval, grants permission to the Niagara County Sheriff's Office to conduct the above-mentioned project within State ROW and within the geographical jurisdiction of the Municipality.

Be it further resolved, that the Niagara County Sheriff's Office shall maintain or cause to be maintained the installed equipment at the project location(s) and shall cover any expenses that may arise from the executing of the above-mentioned project utilizing the above-mentioned Grant or other Municipal funding, and

Be it further resolved, that Michael J. Filicetti, Sheriff of Niagara County, has the authority to sign, with the concurrence of the City's Legal Counsel and by the City Council, any and all documentation that may be necessary as a result of the above-mentioned project as it relates to the MUNICIPALITY, and

Be it further resolved, That the Clerk of the MUNICIPALITY is hereby directed to electronically transmit signed, sealed, notarized, stamped, and certified copy of the foregoing resolution to the Niagara County Sheriff's Office for processing of and inclusion to Law Enforcement Equipment (LEE) Application and Agreement with NYSDOT.

Resolved that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by Alderman Mullane and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.12

By Alderman Craig:

Whereas the Greater Lockport Development Corporation (GLDC) was the owner of the building located at 57 Canal Street, Lockport, NY (the “Building”); and

Whereas during its ownership of the Building, GLDC placed a dumpster in the trash enclosure in the City of Lockport’s parking lot behind 57 Canal Street in support of tenants in occupancy of the building; and

Whereas Iskalo 57 Canal Street purchased the building from GLDC in May of 2016, and

Whereas Iskalo has continued to utilize the aforementioned dumpster for trash removal services following its purchase of the Building;

Now therefore, Iskalo, via resolution, formally requests to memorialize this understanding to continue to utilize the dumpster corral for their contracted trash removal services for the benefit of their tenants at the Building.

Seconded by Alderman Fogle and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.13

By Alderman Devine:

Resolved that pursuant to their request the Lockport Fire Department is hereby granted permission to use the softball field at Outwater Park from 5-8pm on 5/1, 5/27, 6/17, 7/8, 7/15 and 7/29, subject to approval of their schedule by the Highway and Parks Department, the appropriate fees paid, and a Certificate of Insurance filed with the city clerk. All requests for field use is on a first come, first serve basis.

Seconded by Alderman Kirchberger and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.14

By Alderman Craig:

Resolved that pursuant to their request the Desales Catholic School Girls JV Softball team is hereby granted permission to use the softball field at Outwater Park on 5/1, 5/9, and 5/28 from 4:30pm – 8pm, 5/18 from 11am- 2pm and 5/31 from 9am – 12pm, subject to approval of the Highway and Parks Department, the appropriate fees paid, and a Certificate of Insurance filed with the city clerk. All requests for field use is on a first come, first serve basis.

Seconded by Alderman Lupo and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.15

By Alderman Devine:

Resolved that pursuant to their request, the JV baseball team is hereby granted permission to use the baseball Field at Outwater Park on an as needed basis, when their regular field is unusable. This is subject to approval from the Highway and Parks Department, the payment of appropriate fees paid and filing a certificate of insurance with the City Clerk. All requests for field use is on a first come, first serve basis.

Seconded by Alderman Craig and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.15A

By Alderman Kirchberger:

Resolved that the Mayor, subject to Corporation Counsel approval, be and the same is hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with 716 Buffalo Blizzard for use of Exchange Field for their 2025 season.

Seconded by Alderman Craig and adopted. Ayes 6.

040925.16

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 pm Alderman Fogle moved the Common Council be adjourned until 6:00pm Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025.

Seconded by Alderman Devine and adopted. Ayes 6.

EMILY STODDARD
City Clerk