

APPENDIX A
PLANNING COMMITTEE & FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022, 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
HURLEY BUILDING, 205 SALTONSTALL STREET
VIRTUAL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89079597597>

Planning Committee: Thomas Lyon, Chair
Steve Uebbing
Dan Unrath

Councilmembers Present: Sim Covington, Jr.
Erich Dittmar
Renee Sutton
Karen White
Mayor Palumbo

Excused: Nick Cutri

Other City Staff: John Goodwin, City Manager
David Hou, Corporation Counsel

Chair Lyon opened the meeting and before the meeting started with the first agenda item, he called on Councilmember White. Councilmember White apologized for her comments at the Council meeting on July 12th. She said her comments were unprofessional and hurtful and she sincerely apologized. She said she would be more thoughtful in the future.

Chair Lyon welcomed members present and said that Mr. Cutri is excused for the meeting. He began by calling on Glenn Weinberg from Joule Assets, who provided an update for the first agenda item regarding the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). Mr. Weinberg reviewed his presentation before Council. CCA is a program that allowed for the City residents to select a default energy supplier on behalf of their residence and/or small businesses. Mr. Weinberg explained that Source Power/Icon Energy (the contracted energy provider for the program) defaulted on a required payment to the grid operator, New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) and was prohibited from being an electric provider. Program has been running for about 18 months and was suspended on July 15th. Residents and small businesses that were part of the CCA program have been returned to RG&E as the default electric supply service. They are still looking into their options despite the situation with Source Power. This situation was not the fault of the City. Councilmember Uebbing asked what would happen to residents dealing with the changes in their rates for their bills. Mr. Weinberg explained there are two issues that are happening, the challenges with the return to billing for RGE given the abrupt and unplanned problem for the customers and the fixed rate the customers had, adjusting to what RGE rates for service. Councilmember Sutton asked on the legal relationship, Mr. Weinberg explained it is a tri-party agreement, with Joule serving as the program manager to the City with Source Power being the supplier. Councilmember Sutton asked if they were looking into a new supplier and Mr. Weinberg said that yes, they are. He explained that there are other municipalities including Brighton was also affected by Source defaulting on the agreement and there could be a potential partnership with these cities and towns down the line with a new potential provider. City Manager Goodwin said that there have been ongoing negotiation with Source Power and Joule has been leading that discussion on behalf of the affected municipalities attorney's and hoping to

update once something changes. There will be an upcoming meeting and once there is an update, David Hou and City Manager will update Council.

Chair Lyon reviewed the Mayor's request to look into a Gun Buy Back Program. The Mayor has been looking to into a potential gun buyback program. He researched other locations that offer these programs and this could be an option for Canandaigua. Police Chief, Nielsen said the logistical part for a program like this is more complicated. Currently they have 15 firearms that have been turned in for destruction and there is a multi-layered process to get rid of a firearm. He cited an example of when a firearm is turned in there are steps to determine if it can be destroyed, sending details out to ballistics, waiting for the results and should the firearm be part of a crime and deciding whether or not it cannot be destroyed. The Chief outlined concerns because of the many steps involved with receiving firearms. He is uncertain as to how major Cities are able to accept firearms with no questioned asked. Generally speaking, without fully understanding how these Cities are able to put these events together, working with all the necessary stakeholders, can be very challenging. The Chief sited another example of someone that found a firearm in the bushes outside of an apartment complex and the complicated steps to try and locate the details about the firearm to know if it could be destroyed. Ideally, a program like this, would take time to research and should work with all the local agencies on finding out what it could take to do. Staffing, incentive programs to purchase the guns back, would need to be carefully planned. City Manager Goodwin explained that there is no budget for this event, and with most of these events taking place in major cities where gun violence is an issue, we do not have that here in Canandaigua. David Poteet at 120 Park Street spoke, thinks it is a very tough choice and respects Council looking into this. Chair Lyon said that there is support to look into this and City Staff will follow up with Council in a future meeting.

Chair Lyon brought up the discussion topic for the Historic District. A proposal to fill the doughnut holes of the City's historic districts has been in multiple comprehensive plans, and brought before Council for consideration multiple times, but has not been implemented. Based on recent results of the National Community Survey, 75 % of residents would like to see a program evolve. Ideally it would mean, designating the areas within the City that are on the National and State Register's, but not the City's Historic District. It would involve adding 68 properties not originally included in the on Dungan, Park, Washington, Gibson, Catherine, Wood and Sly Streets. Brian McCarthy, who resides at 126 Washington Street had questions for Council on what the program will be, will there be programs for residents to incentivizes. Councilmember Sutton said that this was last looked into in 2021 and did not make it out of committee. Councilmember White suggested the need for an incentive program or another way to help residents affected in the future should this come up again. Chair Lyon explained that there are incentives at the Federal and State level, but at a significant investment for improvements for homeowners. Councilmember Dittmar does not support closing the donut holes as residents have enough burden and as much a he prefers supporting the character of these homes and overall area, it's a lot to ask a resident. Mayor Palumbo agrees, that someone who buys a property it should be up to them and if they buy in a historic district, they buy it knowing the details. David Poteet, 120 Park Street spoke and said it would be good for the City to consider an incentive plan and review the area to see if it is possible to decrease the size of the district as some of the homes may not meet the criteria. Chair Lyon said that no action was to be taken today and this just up for discussion based by the recent survey results.

Chair Lyon provided a quick update on CLDC. Meetings between the City and Town are continuing. They are working within subcommittees reviewing priorities around infrastructure, capital improvements and well as tourism. Both he and City Manager Goodwin will continue to keep Council updated.

Chair Lyon closed the meeting.

Finance Committee: Steve Uebbing, Chair
Thomas Lyon
Dan Unrath

Councilmembers Present: Sim Covington, Jr.

Erich Dittmar
Renee Sutton
Karen White
Mayor Palumbo

Excused: Nick Cutri

Chair Uebbing opened the meeting and thanked those present and reviewed the first agenda item. He explained the City received a \$60,000 grant as part of the New York Main Street grant to assist in the development of The Central on Main from a parking lot and into a permanent outdoor dining and event plaza. The total costs of the necessary drainage, electrical and concrete work is estimated at \$185,000. As such \$125,000 of City funding would be necessary to complete the project. Councilmember Unrath asked if this was budgeted. City Manager Goodwin confirmed that it was not but the funds are available, if approved. Chair Uebbing said the feedback he has received is that not all area restaurants participate in the Central and could there be a perception of a competitive disadvantage for those not involved by using tax payer monies for something that doesn't benefit all. Councilmember Lyon said it would be a worthwhile investment. Councilmember Sutton asked how on the grant came together and City Manager Goodwin explained that the New York State Main Street grant, initially was to help Main Street property owners renovate their second and third floors. New York State opened the grant up to outdoor spaces to turn them into outdoor dining areas during the pandemic. The Central was created during the pandemic as outdoor dining was needed and now looking to expand that area. The City did not plan for the increased concrete costs and the project itself continued to evolve into more things. Entryway, stage, lights, bathrooms will not be covered in the \$185K, and those may come later. Right now the plan is for one flat surface, not using stamped concrete as that is too expensive but the area will have footing and electrical included. Councilmember Sutton asked to see the plans before making a decision would prefer to find a way for all area restaurants to be included, if that can be possible. Councilmember Sutton asked on future grants. Goodwin explained that the project needs to start and use the grant money that was given before going after more grant money, which could be a negative and there could potential working the LDC on funding sources. Questions regarding the business structure, the City owns the property and it is a partnership with the BID and the restaurants that participate in it. Denise Chaaple from the BID explained that they have invested about \$40,000 since the inception and they are the managers of the space. They work with all City restaurants both in and outside of the BID are. Families can use the space and bring in their own food and there isn't a reason why GrubHub can't deliver McDonald's that if is what is wanted. Once they discovered the pavement issues, they started looking into all others of renegue and the potential for it to become a City park. something similar to the Commons, which the BID could help fundraise for. Ms. Chaaple explained that the idea is an economic driver for downtown. Mayor Palumbo is in support of this and if there are other opportunities for funding they should be explored. Discussion around future plans and the continued use of the Common as well. The grant funds would need to be spent by the end of the year. Chair Uebbing inquired on finding other partners for the project and those entities could be the BID, CLDC and share the stake. He does support the entire amount but feels more opportunity can be found with more partners. City Manager suggested there could be shared relationship for maintenance. Ms. Chaaple said there have been increased cost with going to a seven day a week operation and this money is only for paving. There needs to be more exploratory work done for more ways to offset the financial burden. Chair Uebbing asked for a motion. City Manager said the funds would come from the surplus funds. Councilmember Unrath motioned to appropriate the \$125,000 for the paving and to move the item to City Council. Councilmember Lyon seconded. Unanimously passed and carried.

Chair Uebbing moved onto to an updated-on Garbage and Recycling toters. City Council previously voted to replace the garbage and recycling toters due to severe failures of toters that caused injury to City staff. City Staff was able to locate and purchase new lift mechanisms to mitigate the injury causing toter failures. Chair Uebbing said that he polled his neighbors on the toters and is concerned about people having storage for the 96 gallons and

to be able to lift them as well. Councilmember Lyon said that he is concerned about the space at the landfill and would advocate for the 64-gallon totes and asked for residents to be mindful about their waste. City Manager Goodwin said that when we hit the pause button, it was to provide time for the interim solution to work on the trucks, which it has so far. The decision was between the standard 96 gallons unless residents requested a 64-gallon tote or having all going uniform 64. Originally it was suggested to create an enterprise fund by taking the money out of the general fund to use for this and after he and City Treasurer Nancy Abdallah reviewed the pros and cons of this, do not recommend this practice. Instead, they suggested a more “pay to throw fund” where all residents would receive one tote of each and have to pay a monthly fee for any additional tote requested. Currently, multifamily homes and non for profits pay \$160.00 fee for garbage and there is an administrative burden on City Staff for this. They would eliminate this practice and make up for the revenue with the fees received for the additional tote purchase. Monthly it would cost residents roughly \$12.50, \$83,000.00 annually. Still providing a tote for all, but non for profits who do not pay taxes would pay for tote number one. Chair Uebbing would like to see a written plan at the next Finance committee meeting on August 2nd. Councilmember Unrath motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Lyon, motion passed and carried.