

PUBLIC SAFETY

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – 7:25 p.m.
Council Chambers – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Robinson, Vice Chairman Anastasia, Alderman Bennion, Alderman Keary, Alderman Forney, Alderman McCall, and Alderman Crawford. Others: Mayor Amy Sherburne; Allison Barnish, City Auditor; James Sprague, Director of Public Works, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

1. Roll Call

Alderman Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, May 19, 2026)

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2026 committee meeting was made by Alderman Robinson, seconded by Alderman Anastasia. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

a. North Union Street Lighting

Director Sprague explained following the input after putting the first head up, he is working with a second vendor on a light spread that we can achieve with an LED board designed for our situation. He explained the vendor has not provided a test head to install, but Mr. Kahm is working on this. Alderman Robinson asked how much time we need on this and Director Sprague asked that this be put back on the agenda in a month. He noted that he will be meeting with Mr. Kahm to discuss this tomorrow and if they have an update sooner he will communicate that.

b. School Zone Changes

Alderman McCall explained they had a very productive meeting with Jeff Andreano from the school, as well as Mayor Sherburne, Director Sprague, Capt. Blovsky and SRO McGraw. She explained it was very important to include these people because they are the ones that are there day to day to see the issues. She explained we have had some residents with concerns about safety and about getting out of driveways. She explained the best way to look at this was the whole complex rather than one street at a time. She explained there are school zone speed limits posted but not everyone recognized they were there. She explained they discussed establishing a drop off zone as currently it is a mad house that is not safe for residents or students. She explained Reed Street is also very narrow and two cars cannot fit through there with parking. She explained right now they are fact finding to see what makes the most sense for residents and

students, and they feel there was nothing that was put on the table by the City that the school was not very receptive of during their very productive meeting.

Director Sprague explained the proposal is to make a portion of North 4th Street one way going North, Reed Street one way going East, and North 3rd Street one way going South back to Sullivan. He explained this would leave a one way direction around the high school building. He explained parking on the east side of North 4th Street was eliminated and would become a drop off space for parents to drop off students, and noted it is currently a bus drop off space. He explained the proposed school zone will still need to be thought about a discussed some, as we do not want to be too overly aggressive. He explained he feels compliance for a school zone would be difficult if someone sees a sign, but does not see a school. He explained if we are going to do a school zone, we will need to make it localized right along the edge of the tennis court complex. He explained we need to move some school zone signs that are too close to the school to give some warning to motorists and get their speeds slowed down before they get to the school. He explained there has been a lot of conversation about this, especially at North 7th and Reed Street.

Director Sprague explained Mr. Crandall has shown new crosswalks to be installed and is proposing RRFB's for crosswalks because they are essentially midblock crossings. He explained the area on 7th Street where parking is essentially across the sidewalk is an issue that blocks the path of pedestrians. He explained he did have a conversation with Code Enforcement who advised the property owner currently has some work going on at that site and they will see what this work may imply for the parking situation. He explained for the overall school zone, he feels we should ensure we do not make it too big as then people won't comply, and explained he is proposing adjusting some signage on West Sullivan, adding some on North 7th, adjusting some on Wayne Street and adding some on North 1st Street.

Director Sprague explained we need to work with our attorney and the school district to make sure we get the definition of school zone correct. He explained we can draw the school zone around the perimeter but then it is important to ensure we put the signs where they will make the most sense for compliance. He explained the school district is on board with the proposal and is willing to do what they need to do to get a clear school zone.

Alderman Crawford asked if there has been any discussion about STOP signs coming down the Reed Street hill, and explained there are a lot of kids that cross on that hill and a lot of high school kids that drive quickly down that hill. Director Sprague explained he does not recall this being discussed at the meeting. Mayor Sherburne explained Mr. Crandall did not recommend this as it would bottleneck traffic. She explained with the RRFB's students would be able to initiate to cross safely. Alderman McCall explained some of this may be helped by a discussion about where students park. She explained they have discussed having them park in the lot to help with some of the flow of traffic and the school was open to that. Alderman Crawford asked if this would

eliminate the parking on Reed Street and Alderman McCall explained it would only move where the students park.

Mayor Sherburne explained the school's biggest concern was safety with drop offs. She explained the one way around the school would be a big help with this. Alderman McCall explained if cars are speeding in the area we might also want to look at speed humps. Mayor Sherburne explained we will start with this change and see if it helps. Alderman McCall explained they did discuss the drop off zones and being sensitive to residents, and making changes for weekdays during the day and not on nights or weekends. Alderman Bennion asked if this can be done, and Director Sprague explained he has not seen a school zone with a speed limit that varied but he is not saying it can't be done, especially with advanced digital signage. Alderman Robinson explained he feels this change would be beneficial for the entire school season, but the school zone speed limit should not also apply during nights, weekends, and holidays.

Mayor Sherburne explained we are hoping that we can get this done before school starts. Alderman Robinson explained he wants to have another discussion on this to get a finalized PL, and then a public hearing can be posted with plenty of time to get everyone done before the first week of September. Alderman McCall noted if there is a cost for the RRFB's, this should be included in the PL.

4. New Referrals for Consideration

a. Res #15-26 – Remove No Parking signs – E. Elm St.

Alderman Robinson explained the Council has been receiving emails on continuing issues in this area since the No Parking signs were removed. Alderman Anastasia explained he did get a couple of calls, one from the neighbor across the street that states that when parents drop off their kids they are playing loud music at 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. and he would like that stopped. He explained he did speak with an administrator at the school that will be sending a letter to the parents to drop the kids off in a parking lot that the school rents next door. He explained he did advise the resident to contact the police department if there is an issue with noise.

b. Assistance to Firefighter's Grant – Fire Engine / Radios

Chief Maurouard explained these are the same applications that we applied for last year. He explained we are applying for funding for a fire engine for the main grant and for radios for the mini grant. He explained if we were to be awarded the grants, there is a 5% match requirement from the City.

5. Committee Reports

None

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Robinson, seconded by Alderman Bennion. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.