



CITY OF ONEIDA
MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
109 N. MAIN ST., ONEIDA, NY 13421

AGENDA

Date:	August 11, 2026	Presiding:	Rick Rossi, Mayor
Time:	5:30 p.m.	Clerk:	Sandy LaPera, City Clerk
Location:	Common Council Chambers	Meeting Type:	Regular ☐ Special ☒

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Item	Title	Facilitator
1.	APPROVE THE REVISED 30% DESIGN SUBMISSION FOR THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK DRI PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE ADVANCEMENT TO FINAL DESIGN See Link Here	CITY MANAGER
2.	RECEIVE AND FILE THE MAYOR'S WRITTEN OBJECTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.7(B) OF THE CITY CHARTER: receive and place on file written objections from Mayor Rossi to Resolution 26-118 on August 4, 2026, pursuant to Section 3.7(B) of the Oneida City Charter	MAYOR
3.	RECONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 26-118: approve the budget transfers and amendments as set forth in Resolution 26-118, originally considered and rejected on August 4, 2026 (Roll Call Vote/Two Thirds Vote Required)	MAYOR

HANDOUTS:

- [Veterans Memorial Park DRI Master Evidence Timeline](#)
- [Veterans Memorial Park DRI Public Facts at a Glance](#)



CITY OF ONEIDA COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date:	August 11, 2026	Presiding:	Rick Rossi, Mayor
Time:	5:30pm	Clerk:	Sandy LaPera, City Clerk
Location:	Common Council Chambers	Meeting Type:	Regular ☐ Special ☒

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Rossi, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Attendees

	Present	Absent	Arrived Late
Mayor Rossi	☐	☐	☐ : _____
City Manager Lovell	☐	☐	☐ : _____
Councilor McHugh	☐	☐	☐ : _____
Councilor Cimpi	☐	☐	☐ : _____
Councilor Smith	☐	☐	☐ : _____
Councilor Jones	☐	☐	☐ : _____
Councilor Pagano	☐	☐	☐ : _____
Councilor Simchik	☐	☐	☐ : _____

Also Present

City Attorney Bell	☐	Supervisor: _____	☐
Attorney (Other)	☐	Supervisor: _____	☐
Fire Chief Jones	☐	Other: _____	☐
Police Chief Lowell	☐	Other: _____	☐

1. **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISED 30% DESIGN SUBMISSION FOR THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK DRI PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING ADVANCEMENT TO FINAL DESIGN**

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida received a Downtown Revitalization Initiative award for improvements to Veterans Memorial Park, including recreational, accessibility, bathhouse, court, and veterans memorial improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council previously authorized the Veterans Memorial Park DRI project to proceed into the design phase; and

WHEREAS, the City retained C&S Engineers, Inc. to prepare preliminary 30% design documents for the Veterans Memorial Park DRI project; and

WHEREAS, C&S Engineers prepared a 16-page drawing package entitled **“Revised 30% Design Submission,” dated April 30, 2026, C&S Project No. E42.003.001**, depicting the proposed project improvements, including:

1. A new splash pad and associated site, grading, and utility improvements;
2. Conversion and improvement of the existing courts for pickleball and continued basketball use;
3. A revised Veterans Memorial area containing six granite monuments, six flagpoles, accessible walkways, landscaping, and related site improvements; and
4. Renovations and accessibility improvements to the pool-complex restrooms; and

WHEREAS, the revised 30% design drawings are marked **“Preliminary—Not for Construction”** and are intended to establish the project’s approved scope and design direction before preparation of final construction documents; and

WHEREAS, the revised memorial design depicted in the drawing package is a complete memorial capable of standing independently without the acquisition, placement, mounting, or installation of an aircraft; and

WHEREAS, no aircraft is depicted or included in the revised 30% design submission, and any future aircraft display shall remain financially and administratively separate from the DRI-funded project and subject to separate Common Council authorization; and

WHEREAS, formal approval of the revised 30% design will provide clear and unified direction to the City’s administration and project consultants and allow the project to advance without further unnecessary redesign, delay, or additional consultant expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida hereby approves the Veterans Memorial Park DRI **Revised 30% Design Submission dated April 30,**

2026, C&S Project No. E42.003.001, attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Exhibit A shall constitute the Common Council's approved design direction for the Veterans Memorial Park DRI project and shall serve as the basis for advancing the project into final design, preparation of sealed construction documents, Department of State review, and preparation of public bidding documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to direct and coordinate C&S Engineers, Inc., the Department of Planning, Development and Codes, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and other appropriate City personnel in advancing the approved design through the remaining design, regulatory-review, and procurement processes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager and project consultants may make minor technical, engineering, accessibility, code-compliance, regulatory, or administrative modifications during final design, provided that such modifications do not materially alter the principal project components approved by this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any proposed material alteration to the approved design, including removal of a principal project component, relocation of a principal project component, or substantial redistribution of the project scope, shall be returned to the Common Council for formal consideration and direction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution does not constitute approval of final construction documents, acceptance of a public bid, award of a construction contract, commencement of construction, or authorization of expenditures beyond funds otherwise appropriated and authorized by the Common Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no DRI funding shall be used for the acquisition, transportation, preparation, mounting, foundation, crane work, installation, or other aircraft-specific expense associated with any future static aircraft display unless separately presented to and expressly authorized by the Common Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

2. RECEIVE AND FILE THE MAYOR'S WRITTEN OBJECTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.7(B)
OF THE ONEIDA CITY CHARTER

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, receive and place on file written objections from Mayor Rossi to Resolution 26-118 from August 4, 2026, pursuant to Section 3.7(B) of the Oneida City Charter.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

3. **RECONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 26-118 FROM AUGUST 4, 2026**

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, to approve the budget transfers and amendments as set forth in Resolution 26-118, originally considered and rejected on August 4, 2026.

Councilor McHugh

Councilor Cimpi

Councilor Smith

Councilor Jones

Councilor Pagano

Councilor Simchik

Mayor Rossi

MOTION RESULT: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: ☐ Passed ☐ Failed

The meeting adjourned at _____ p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandra LaPera, City Clerk