## AGENDA ITEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Voting Item?</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Time Alotted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Chair, Lisa Swayze</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Agenda Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15 Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Review and Approval of Minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Statements from the Public</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Commission Response</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Art: Follow-up on Murals Subcommittee/Public Art Working Group – Commission Project Plan</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Rusty Keeler</td>
<td>30 Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing: No item on Agenda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth: No item on Agenda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities: Follow-up Cornell Contributions</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Caroline Byrne &amp; Sean Hillson</td>
<td>15 Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability: CLC Action on Shopping Carts</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Jody Scriber/Ishaan Bakhle</td>
<td>15 Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look Ahead: Agenda Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15 Mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Wrap-Up</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.1 Announcements: Sexual Harassment Trng &amp; Acknowledgements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.2 Next Meeting Date: August 19, 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3 Review Agenda Items for Next Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.4 Adjourn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

The Community Life Commission is charged with providing the Common Council, appropriate committees thereof, the City's quasi-judicial boards, and staff with advisory research, public input, and analysis for ensuring that the City of Ithaca remains a desirable place to live, work, and visit.

If you have a disability that will require special arrangements to be made in order for you to fully participate in the meeting, please contact the City Clerk at 274-6570 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Out of consideration for the health of other individuals, please refrain from using perfume/cologne and other scented personal care products at City of Ithaca meetings. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.
CALL SUMMARY

The Tompkins Giant

Community Arts Partnership (CAP) of Tompkins County and the Tompkins County Tourism Program are seeking qualified artists who can be inspired by the story of the Taughannock Giant (see project description below) and who could imagine and create an original larger-than-life outdoor sculpture installation that evokes a similar sense of awe and wonder.

BUDGET

The total allocated funds for this project are $18,000. This amount is inclusive of design, fabrication, shipping and installation expenses, travel, insurance and other project related expenses. CAP will have additional funding for the promotion of the finished piece.

Please note that there could be community volunteer participation, if needed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background: In 1879, in the Finger Lakes region of Upstate New York, the remains of what appeared to be a well-preserved, petrified specimen of an ancient seven foot man were uncovered during a road excavation. Declared by local scientists to be authentic, the Taughannock Giant became a public and media sensation attracting enormous attention and seen by thousands of visitors to Trumansburg, New York.

Eventually, this sculpted man would be declared to be a fake and a hoax. We might now describe it as a successful public art project; a sculpture work/performance piece that embraced people’s fascination and excitement around human relationships to nature, environment, science and time, along with the appeal of local history and sense of place, mystery and a spark of magical thinking.

The current project is a nod to the story shared above as a part of local history while inviting residents and visitors to experience a new whimsical, artistic creation, the Tompkins Giant.

It is important to note that the finished piece will not have to be a giant per se but must suggest a giant in some way.

ARTWORK GOALS

The artwork sought should be the vision of the artist, or a team of artists, using the term “giant” as a starting point to create a piece of public art that elicits joy and wonder and
illustrates a phrase often used to describe Ithaca, New York as being “ten square miles surrounded by reality.”

The successful piece will help brand Tompkins County as an important cultural destination in upstate New York, appealing to an audience that is diverse in age, income, cultural background, and artistic appreciation.

The artwork must be fabricated to be withstand the outdoor elements of upstate New York, be low maintenance, and demonstrate an awareness of public safety concerns.

A successful piece will ‘spark joy’ in the viewer and express the artists’ aesthetic sensibility.

ARTWORK LOCATION DESCRIPTION
The location of this installation will be in Tompkins County, in or near the City of Ithaca New York. The exact location is yet to be determined, but the art will most likely be installed in a natural non-urban setting close to or in the City of Ithaca, New York.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
Open to all.
Individual artists or a collaboration of artists are welcome to apply.
Please write a letter of interest explaining why you would be a good fit for this project based on your previous work. Please limit this to approximately 500 words.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
Related to previous work please provide:

- Photographs and detailed descriptions of previous work
- Descriptions of your prior experience with large scale art construction, assembly, installation and materials;
- Prior project budgets;
- References from 3 sources who know your work well;

Related to this current project please provide:

- Your schedule / availability, and any scheduling limitations;
- Your ability to work locally or your travel and housing needs,
- Potential space needs for work and space needed for the completed project;
- Potential volunteer requests and expertise needed.

SELECTION PROCESS
- Submitted Request for Qualification (RFQ) materials will be collected by the staff of the Community Arts Partnership.
-Final determinations will be made by a Review Panel consisting of staff member(s) of Community Arts Partnership, the Tompkins County Tourism Program, and select members of the community.

Send electronically by PDF to: Director@artspartner.org
Or
Hard copies can be mailed to:
John Spence, Executive Director
Community Arts Partnership
110 N. Tioga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

SELECTION CRITERIA
-Eligible artists will be selected based on the evidence of their capability to successfully complete a large scale public art installation.
- The alignment of an artist's previous work and the goals of this current programs will also be a consideration.

TIMELINE
-Materials for this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) must be received by end-of-day on Monday April 22nd, 2019.
-The Panel will make its determination by May 15th, 2019. Selected artists will then be invited to submit a Request for Proposals (RFP) detailing their vision for a new Tompkins Giant with a submission deadline of June 30, 2019.
- Work on the Giant should be slated to begin mid-late summer 2019.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct questions to:

John Spence, Executive Director
Director@artspartner.org
Community Arts Partnership
110 N Tioga Street
Ithaca NY 14850
(607) 273-5072 Ext 19
Mission

We strive to make Ithaca a Model Community:

a great place to create, dream, live, learn, work and play
Vision

We deliver high quality services to preserve & enhance the well-being of our community.
Values

For those we employ and those we serve

I. People
We believe that:
– People are our greatest asset;
– Each person should be respected, developed, supported, and valued;
– Diversity should be celebrated through inclusion

II. Relationships
We believe in:
– Teamwork;
– Interdependent collaboration;
– Responsiveness;
– Sharing knowledge and expertise

III. Excellent Results
We believe in:
– Continuous improvement;
– Streamlined processes;
– Creativity;
– Quality service;
– Celebrating success
Overall 2019 City Budget

$75.8 million?
City Budget by Fund

- General: $59,510,000 (78.5%)
- Water: $7,010,000 (9.3%)
- Sewer: $6,370,000 (8.4%)
- Stormwater: $1,500,000 (2.0%)
- Sidewalks: $860,000 (1.1%)
- Solid Waste: $530,000 (0.7%)
Operating vs. Capital Budgets
Operating Budget

“Pay As We Go”

Should cover all the things that we do every year:

– Personnel
– Parts, supplies and materials
– Travel and training
– Contractual expenses
– Etc.

Also includes debt service for past borrowing
Capital Budget

“Buy Now, Pay Later”

• Intended for large investments
  – Buildings
  – Bridges
  – Parking Garages
• In last several decades we have had to use it more than we should
  – Equipment that needs to be replaced regularly, like police cars
  – Roadwork that occurs every year
  – Other repairs
  – Some personnel costs
Capital Budget

- City has a debt limit set by the state that is a percentage of our overall tax base
- Currently we are at 71% of our debt limit
- If we get above 90%, our bond rating goes down and our borrowing costs rise
- We are paying off $6.8 million in debt in 2019. The goal is to issue less new debt than we pay off
- Sometimes we front expenses and get reimbursed later from grants and state and federal aid
General Fund Overview
General Fund Expenditure by Department (2018)
General Fund Expenditures (2018)

- Personnel: 72%
- Debt Service: 13%
- Other: 15%
General Fund Expenditures (2018)

- Salary and Wages: 41%
- Fringe Benefits: 30%
- Overtime: 2%
- Debt Service: 13%
- Contracts: 4%
- Other: 5%
- Maintenance and Parts
- Utilities and Fuel
- Supplies
- Travel and Training
- Equipment
- Fees
- Insurance
- Interfund Transfer

Remaining 6%:
General Fund Revenues (2018)

- Property Taxes: 40%
- Sales Tax: 25%
- Local Revenues: 20%
- State Revenues: 6%
- Parking Revenues: 5%
- Interfund Transfer: 3%
- Federal Revenues: 1%
Tax Cap
New York State Tax Cap

- NY limits local governments to increases in the property tax levy by the lesser of inflation or 2%
- There is some allowance for growth in the tax base, so Ithaca has been able to exceed 2% for the last few years
  - 2019: 2.93%
  - 2018: 2.94%
  - 2017: 2.03%
- City can override the tax cap with an affirmative vote of 60% of Common Council
New York State Tax Cap

• Property Taxes account for 40% of our revenues
• A 2% increase allows us to cover an increase in general fund expenses of 0.8%
• Personnel costs account for 72% of our expenses
• If personnel costs rise by 1.1%, and debt service and other costs remain the same, then our general fund expenses would increase by 0.8%.
Tax Exempt Property
## Taxable vs. Tax Exempt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Assessed Value</th>
<th>% of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxable Property</td>
<td>$2.1 billion</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Exempt Property</td>
<td>$2.6 billion</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent tax exempt property in the City of Ithaca, while still one of the highest in the state, has been coming down as we increase the amount of taxable property.
## Tax Exempt Entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>Exempt (millions)</th>
<th>% of exempt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School District</td>
<td>$63</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Govt.</td>
<td>$56</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILOTs</td>
<td>$41</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churches</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$37</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profits</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ithaca College</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Exempt</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic and Fiscal Historic Trends
Funded FTEs by Department (2018)

- DPW (except W&S): 106
- Police: 77
- Fire: 68
- DPW - W&S: 53
- Youth Bureau: 40
- Planning/Bldg: 27
- GIAC: 23
- Finance: 13
- Common Council: 10
- PIT: 7
- HR: 6
- Attorney: 4
- Mayor: 3
Number of Employees

![Line graph showing the number of employees from 2005 to 2018. The graph indicates fluctuations in employee numbers over the years.](image-url)
Salaries

$15,000,000
$16,000,000
$17,000,000
$18,000,000
$19,000,000
$20,000,000
$21,000,000
$22,000,000
$23,000,000
$24,000,000
$25,000,000

Health Insurance Costs

Average Annual Increase 2006 – 2012: 8.4%
Average Annual Increase 2012 – 2018: 5.2%
Pension Costs
Debt Service
Total Debt Outstanding

Increase in Total Debt:
- Green Street Parking Garage: $12M
- Water Treatment Plant: $36M
- Wastewater Treatment Facility: $11M
- Commons: $11M
- Total: $70M
State Aid

$- $1,000,000 $2,000,000 $3,000,000 $4,000,000 $5,000,000 $6,000,000 $7,000,000 $8,000,000 $9,000,000 $10,000,000

Sales Tax Revenues


$7,000,000 $8,000,000 $9,000,000 $10,000,000 $11,000,000 $12,000,000 $13,000,000 $14,000,000 $15,000,000 $16,000,000 $17,000,000
Property Tax Levy

Average Annual Increase 2006 – 2012: 4.4%
Average Annual Increase 2012 – 2018: 2.6%
Budget Process
## Capital Budget Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Call goes out for Capital Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Capital Project requests from departments are submitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June to July</td>
<td>Capital Projects Review Committee meets to whittle down list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Recommended Capital Projects released to Staff and Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

City aims to keep new debt below $4 million, net of reimbursements, so we can reduce overall debt
Operating Budget Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-June</td>
<td>Mayor’s budget guidance issued to departments (e.g. 1.5% increase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1</td>
<td>Departments submit budget requests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug – Sep</td>
<td>Mayor crafts proposed budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct Council Mtg</td>
<td>Mayor releases proposed budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month of October</td>
<td>Council budget meetings to modify Mayor’s budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov Council Mtg</td>
<td>Budget and Tax Rate adopted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Operating Budget Process

- Mayor’s Budget guidance for 2019 was a 1.5% increase over 2018 budget
- Departments can submit over target requests (OTRs), which the Mayor may consider.
- Once Mayor’s budget is released, Departments can submit requests above the Mayor’s budget (RAMBs) to Council
- Council will consider RAMBs, along with any other amendments that they decide to make, before adopting the budget.
How can Commissions Impact City Budget

• Work with staff before May deadline for capital projects and before August 1 deadline for operating budget to develop a rationale for increased spending

• Pass resolutions in support of new spending in Mayor’s budget or RAMBs submitted to Council for consideration during October budget deliberations.

• Ideally you should start in very early in the year, say in January, to have time to impact the budget process for next year’s budget.
Questions and Discussion
COMMISSION PROJECT PLAN

ASSIGNED COMMISSION

[ ] Public Safety and Information
[ ] Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources
[ ] Community Life
[ ] Mobility, Accessibility and Transportation

REPORT UP TO

[ ] City Administration Committee
[ ] Planning and Economic Development Committee
[ ] Mayor
[ ] Common Council
[ ] City Staff (specify): Jeanne Grace

1. Project Title, Description and Background

Give this project a title, describe how it came about, the purpose, and who is involved

Shopping Cart Ordinance Update

Residents (particularly downtown) have identified abandoned shopping carts as a blight to neighborhood aesthetics, a hazard to the public, and an obstruction to pedestrian and vehicular traffic. City staff finds the current ordinance time-consuming to enforce and ineffective. We have proposed ordinances changes and have received initial feedback from retailers. Council would like a well-researched and well-vetted recommendation for updates to the existing ordinance.

2. Project Deliverables

Please check off and describe below the exact deliverable(s) you are expecting from the Commission, and add details as needed.

[ ] Research the topic and provide a summary report on your findings. Include any recommendations along with reasons for the recommendations. (Requires a vote of the commission)

[ ] Review a program, process or legislation from Council and provide feedback on the pros and cons. Report back should indicate whether the commission supports the program, does not support the program, or is neutral, along with the reasons why. (Requires a vote of the commission)

[ ] Arrange for a public presentation on the topic, gather feedback, solicit questions, and synthesize feedback in a findings report. (Vote of commission not required)

- Gather feedback from retailers on the proposed ordinance change
- Gather feedback from people most likely to take shopping carts and/or the organizations that work with them
- Propose a change in legislation (likely based off draft already presented to City Administration)
- Propose ways to mitigate the impact on populations who need ways to transport their groceries
3. City Staff Participation

Describe below the expectations of City Staff to support this work. List names of City Staff assigned to assist.

City Forester Jeanne Grace and her crew are responsible for picking up abandoned shopping carts when they're unable to perform other work. Jeanne can provide insight into the shortcomings and issues with the current shopping cart ordinance and what her preferred solutions would be.

4. Resources/Materials

List below any existing materials or resources that should be reviewed by the Commission as part of their work.

Alderperson Nguyen presented a draft of a new shopping cart ordinance to the City Administration Committee, sent letters summarizing the changes to retailers known to have significant shopping cart inventories, and has feedback from two of those retailers. The Twitter account @ithacascenery documents abandoned shopping carts around the city.

5. Other Stakeholders or Community Partners

List below any other parties that should be included in the discussion or planning of this topic.

Ithaca Housing Authority operates Titus Towers, which houses one of the largest collections of shopping carts in Ithaca outside of a retailer. Their residents have a clear need for ways to transport their groceries.

6. Timeline and Milestones

Please complete the following milestone dates, if known at this time. Public input dates are required only if the project is to gather public input.

| Progress Report 1: | Aug 2019 | Public Input 1: | | Final Deliverables Due: Nov 2019 |
|-------------------|----------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| MONTH/ YEAR       |          | MONTH/ YEAR    |                              |
| Progress Report 2:|          | Public Input 2:|                              |
| MONTH/ YEAR       |          | MONTH/ YEAR    |                              |