

ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

Monday, May 4, 2015

The Common Council was convened at 7:00 p.m. and was called to order by President McLaughlin.

The roll being called, the following answered to their names: Council Members Applys, Bailey, Commisso, Conti, Fahey, Flynn, Golby, Herring, Igoe, Kornegay, Krasher, O'Brien and Robinson.

Also present was the following staff: Nala Woodard, Barbara Samel, Patrick Jordan and Cashawna Parker.

Council Member Robinson led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Edward Spain (on behalf of Larry Cross), 370 South Main Street, Gloversville, NY (Taxicab violations);
2. Thomas Hoey, 19 Vine Street, Albany, NY (911 dispatchers);
3. Jessica Semon, 180 Washington Avenue, Apt. 703, Albany, NY (Citizens Police Review Board);
4. Marc Gronich, 300 Hackett Boulevard, Albany, NY (PEG Access Oversight Board);
5. Sister Honora Kinney, 93 Park Avenue, Albany, NY (Citizens Police Review Board);
6. Vincent Riguso, 13 Beach Avenue, Albany, NY (Support Resolution 4.12.15R in relation to license plates readers);
7. Ariela Perez-Wallach, 680 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY (Lack of information from the Albany Police Department regarding Donald "Dontay" Ivy's death after being tasered);
8. Mark Mishler, 58 South Manning Boulevard, Albany, NY (Citizens Police Review Board);
9. Alex McNeil, 70 Lark Street, Albany, NY (Lack of information from the Albany Police Department regarding Donald "Dontay" Ivy's death after being tasered);
10. Amani Owl-ug-bala, 27 Quail Street, Albany, NY (Black Lives Matter/Independent police review of police actions).

There being no further speakers, the President declared public comment closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Deferred

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL LAWS

Council Member Fahey asked for passage of LOCAL LAW G-2015 (A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE XLI (GENERAL PROVISIONS) OF PART 30 (PARKS AND RECREATION PLANNING COMMISSION) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY), which had been previously introduced.

**Note: Council Members Krasher, Robinson, Conti, Bailey, O'Brien and Fahey spoke on this local law prior to passage.*

The local law passed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:

Affirmative – Applys, Conti, Fahey, Flynn, Golby, Herring, Igoe, Kornegay and O’Brien

Negative – Bailey and Robinson

Present – Commisso and Krasher

Affirmative 9 Negative 2 Abstain 0 Present 2

The remaining Local Laws on the pending agenda were held at the request of President Pro Tempore Conti.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

President Pro Tempore Conti reported a veto letter from Mayor Cathy Sheehan on Ordinance Number 6.11.15 in relation to the living wage compliance committee.

President Pro Tempore Conti reported a letter from Mayor Cathy Sheehan re-establishing a Living Wage Compliance Committee and appointing five (5) members to the committee.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety – Chairperson Golby reported that the committee would be meeting on May 15, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Albany Police Department’s standard operating procedures on the use of Tasers and cameras. The committee will also consider Ordinance 37.42.15 relating to video camera requirements and Ordinance 38.42.15 in relation to police statistics.

Finance, Taxation and Assessment - Chairperson Commisso reported that the committee would be meeting on May 7, 2015 and May 14, 2015 to discuss the Albany Police Department and Albany Fire Department’s bond ordinances. The committee would be scheduling another meeting to have a discussion on some questionable taxable property in the City of Albany.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES

The ordinances on the agenda were held at the request of President Pro Tempore Conti.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Council Member Conti on behalf of Council Member Kimbrough, introduced RESOLUTION NUMBER 21.51.15R, which was held:

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH BROADWAY ALBANY REALTY, LLC FOR THE USE OF A PORTION OF COLONIE STREET IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF 833 BROADWAY

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into a lease agreement with the Broadway Albany Realty, LLC as lessee for the use of a portion of Colonie Street, east of Broadway, in connection with the rehabilitation, improvement and use of 833 Broadway, in a form and upon such terms and conditions as are approved by the Corporation Counsel

together with such other forms, documents and agreements necessary to amend, supplement, renew and otherwise effectuate the same.

The remaining resolutions on the agenda were held at the request of President Tempore Conti.

MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Member Robinson discussed a shooting in his neighborhood, a community cookout that the Albany Police Department held shortly after the incident and a make shift memorial for the victim. He asked Council Members to co-sponsor and event and talked about having issues with the permitting process for events. He discussed the newly passed Parks and Recreations Committee and stated that he hoped the committee would be working with the community.

Council Member Krasher expressed his support of Mayor Sheehan reinstating the Living Wage Compliance Committee. He discussed having conversations on reforming the Citizen Police Review Board.

Council Member Fahey invited Council Members to a luncheon that would include discussions on the Civil Rights Movement in the City of Albany.

Council Member Kornegay invited Council Members to the ground breaking ceremony for the Family Dollar Store in the second ward on Thursday, May 7, 2015.

President McLaughlin responded to comments made by Council Member Robinson. She discussed the peaceful protests, understand people's frustrations with the process and enhancing the authority of the Citizen Police Review Board. She also discussed the special event permit process.

Council Member Applrys acknowledged comments made during the meeting. She discussed it being unfortunate that residents do not know how Council Members feel about important incidents and that the Council should consider releasing a Council statement. She informed that Council that there's a small group of individuals including some Council Members that have been meeting with the Albany Police Department on community relationships and training recommendations.

Council Member Igoe suggested that Council Member Applrys may want to join in with Council Member Golby's group to prevent duplication of work between the groups.

Council Member Golby discussed that the Government Law Center has been looking at Citizen Police Review Boards around the country and that this may be helpful towards changes with the board.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn.

Council President McLaughlin stated hearing no objections, that the Council was adjourned.

A true record of the Common Council Minutes of May 4th, 2015.

CASHAWNA PARKER
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE AIDE TO THE
COMMON COUNCIL