



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Teri Renna, City Council President
Angela Holmes, City Clerk

MINUTES
City Council Business Meeting
Council Chambers, 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, N.Y.
Wednesday March 20, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 6:32pm by Council President Renna.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Renna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jerry Motsavage, Joseph Mihalko, Teri Renna, Lea Webb, Chris Papastrat, John Matzo

Absent: Bill Berg

Also in attendance: Kenneth J. Frank, Corporation Counsel; Angela Holmes, City Clerk; Jeremy Pelletier, Deputy City Clerk

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from the City Council Business Meeting held on March 6, 2013, from the Municipal and Public Affairs Committee meeting held on March 18, 2013, and from the Special Studies/Rules and Procedures Committee meeting held on March 6, 2013.

Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb

Voice vote, none opposed.

Councilman Motsavage noted for the record that the Council of the City of Binghamton and the Village of Johnson City Board of Trustees will hold a Joint Work Session on Monday April 8, 2013 at 5:00pm to discuss the Clerk of the Works position and office space relating to the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant. This meeting will be held at Johnson City Village Hall, located at 243 Main Street, Johnson City. For more information, please contact the City Clerk by phone at (607) 772-7005, or by email at clerk@cityofbinghamton.com, or the Village Clerk by phone at (607) 798-7861, or by email at tjohnson@villageofjc.com.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A proclamation in honor of Denise Nannery, upon her retirement.

A proclamation in honor of Gary Williams, upon his retirement.

A proclamation in honor of Joseph P. Cornell, upon his retirement.

A proclamation in honor of Kevin M. Casey, upon his retirement.

A proclamation in honor of Rheba Wilmott, upon her retirement.

A proclamation in honor of Richard Tinder, upon his retirement.



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A proclamation in honor of Roy Darrow, upon his retirement.

PUBLIC HEARING

Introductory Local Law 13-1, Considered in Employees, Chair: Berg

A Local Law amending the appointment and term of the City Engineer

Note: Notice of this public hearing was published in the Press & Sun Bulletin on March 15, 2013.

In Favor: None

Opposed: None

Introductory Ordinance 13-22, Considered in Planning & Community Development, Chair: Webb

An Ordinance authorizing the sale of 37 Pine Street (Greenman Senior Center) to Opportunities for Broome for \$75,000

Note: Notice of this public hearing was published in the Press & Sun Bulletin on March 15, 2013.

In Favor: Patricia Donohue, Mark Silvanic, Sean Cummings, Lauren Tonti¹, Kelly Robertson, Michelle Park, Thomas Spicer³

Opposed: Gaylord Conrad², Joyce McCloe, Debra Hogan

¹*Lauren Tonti presented the following petition to City Council:*

I am a resident of Pine St. and fully support Opportunities for Broome's (OFB) purchase of the Greenman Senior Center. We are tired of vacant buildings on our street and are desperate for some positive activity. You may be aware that Pine St. has a negative image in the eyes of many residents both on our street and beyond. This is due to blighted properties and drug related crime that we witness often. We commend OFB for their desire to invest in Pine St. and in the Binghamton community and for bringing this program which has the potential to greatly impact many residents and our neighborhood. Having the Greenman Center open again has multiple benefits. First, OFB has an excellent and innovative plan to use the space in a manner that will benefit various constituents. Second, if OFB does not buy this building it will sit vacant since not many people are interested in the training program that OFB plans to implement as well as the senior meals program which OFB plans to revive. Please sell this property to OFB and allow Binghamton residents to benefit from the proposed programming. Do not let it sit vacant at cost to City residents. City Council, we urge you to approve of this sale. Thank you for your time.

[Signed]

Lauren Tonti

Sean Cummings

Sherry Chapman

William G. Segrue

Daniel W. Coleman

Kathleen M. Gross

Dolores M. Gross

Kenneth E. VarPelt

Dean Pease

William R. Graves

Josh DeMarree

Benjamin Pate

²**Suspension of rules.** Motion to suspend the rules to allow Gaylord Conrad, not a resident of the City of Binghamton, to speak during the public hearing.

Moved by Webb, seconded by Papastrat.



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Voice vote, none opposed.

³Thomas Spicer submitted the following letter to the City Clerk's Office on March 20, 2013 for inclusion during the public hearing. This letter was read into the record after all speakers, both those in favor and opposed, had shared their comments.

To City Council,

I am writing this letter in regarding to the Greenman Senior Center located at 37 Pine Street in the City of Binghamton. Local 325 is in the process of trying to relocate and improve our Training Center for our membership and meet the future demand for skilled and qualified electricians in the City of Binghamton and the Greater Binghamton community.

Local 325 and our Joint Apprentice Training Committee visited the property multiple times and were excited and pleased to evaluate the Greenman Senior Center RFP that was issued in February to determine if it would be a cost effective solution to our needs. Listed below are some of the costs and estimates that we were able to collect in the timeframe of the RFP.

1. Heating system (\$200,000)
2. Roof replacement, at end of life cycle (\$100,000)
3. Demolition and construction to meet our needs. Construction of class rooms adding some insulation to the building which was constructed in the 70s to a different energy standard. This was a rough estimate due to the timeframe. (\$500,000 to \$700,000)
4. The windows are single pane glass we did not have time to explore the replacement but due to the size and quantity of the glass, replacement would be a costly but necessary expense.
5. Taxes. The property's current assessment is \$400,000 which using our simple conversion gives a rough tax burden of \$30,000 to \$40,000 per year. Even though there are solutions for this prohibitive estimate it would be beyond my organizations current comfortable ability and at some time in the future would need to be paid.

Local 325 and our Joint Apprentice Training Committee were strongly considering offering a purchase price of \$50,000 for the Greenman Senior Center. Our purchase price reflected the sizable investment and costly updates needed for the property to meet our needs. We would not have needed nor wanted the commercial kitchen nor its equipment or any of the property currently located at 37 Pine St. However, we ultimately decided not to submit our offer due to some of the costs that we touched upon.

As a City of Binghamton taxpayer Local 325 and its membership would hope that City Council can come to a compromise and repurpose the Greenman Senior Center.

Best Regards,
Thomas Spicer
Business Manager, IBEW Local 325

SET PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the City of Binghamton will hold a public hearing during the regular City Council Business Meeting held on April 3, 2013 at 6:30pm, concerning Introductory Ordinance 13-25, entitled "An Ordinance authorizing amendments to Chapter 265 of the Code of the City of Binghamton, relating to Rental Registration". This meeting will be held in the City



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Council Chambers located at 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, New York. For more information, please contact the City Clerk by phone at (607) 772-7005, or by email at clerk@cityofbinghamton.com.

Note: Notice of this public hearing will be published in the Press & Sun Bulletin on March 28, 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS

Mark Silvanic, Sharon Nieminski, Lauren Tonti, Debra Hogan

FIRST READING LEGISLATION

Introductory Ordinance 13-20, Considered in Finance, Chair: Webb

An Ordinance authorizing various transfers in the 2012 budget to eliminate over-expenditures in various departments
Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Webb, seconded by Motsavage.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 13-20. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Ordinance 13-21, Considered in Finance, Chair: Webb

An Ordinance authorizing an increase in estimated revenue and appropriation in the 2013 budget to accept \$949.00 from G. Zavitz Ltd. for the replacement of fire hose contaminated by diesel fuel
Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 13-21. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Ordinance 13-23, Considered in Employees, Chair: Berg

An Ordinance authorizing the increase in Fire Bureau personnel by one Firefighter position from April 1, 2013 to June 1, 2013

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Papastrat, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 13-22. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Ordinance 13-24, Considered in Employees, Chair: Berg

An Ordinance authorizing the increase in Police Department personnel by five Police Officer positions from March 18, 2013 to June 15, 2013

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Papastrat, seconded by Motsavage.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 13-23. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg



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Introductory Resolution 13-30, Considered in Finance, Chair: Webb

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Broome County for work related to the Community Transformation Grant and accept up to \$5,000

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 13-30. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Resolution 13-31, Considered in Finance, Chair: Webb

A Resolution pledging the full faith and credit of the City of Binghamton to pay the remaining principal balance of \$953,625 and interest for note B-82-MC-36-0101 to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or its fiscal agent

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 13-31. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Resolution 13-32, Considered in Municipal & Public Affairs, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution urging the Broome County Executive and Broome County Legislature to restore a fair distribution of local sales tax revenue

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 13-32. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Resolution 13-33, Considered in Municipal & Public Affairs, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the assignment of the contract approved by Permanent Resolution 12-55 from Earth Day Southern Tier to Volunteers Improving Neighborhood Environments (VINES)

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 13-33. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

Introductory Resolution 13-34, Considered in Municipal & Public Affairs, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution approving Agreement No. IX amending the Joint Sewage Treatment Municipal Agreement between the Village of Johnson City and the City of Binghamton

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 13-34. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg



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Introductory Resolution 13-35, Considered in Employees, Chair: Berg

A Resolution approving an agreement between the City of Binghamton and International Brotherhood of Teamsters AFL-CIO, Local 693 (Supervisory Unit) Teamsters Supervisors for 2013

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Papastrat, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 13-35. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo

Nays: None

Absent: Berg

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Matzo, Berg, Motsavage, Mihalko, Papastrat, Rennia

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:06pm.

Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Papastrat.

Voice vote, none opposed.