

Regular Meeting

These minutes are for the regular meeting of the Beacon City Council, held in the Municipal Center at One Municipal Plaza on January 17, 2017. Please note that the video recording of this meeting is available at <http://vimeo.com/channels/40154>.

Council Members Present:

Lee Kyriacou, At Large
George Mansfield, At Large
Peggy Ross, Ward One
Omar Harper, Ward Two
Pamela Wetherbee, Ward Three
Randy Casale, Mayor

Council Members Absent/Excused:

Ali Muhammad, Ward Four

Also Present:

Anthony Ruggiero, City Administrator
Nick Ward-Willis, City Attorney

A moment of silence was observed for those who work to protect human rights

First Opportunity for Public Comments: Each speaker may have one opportunity to speak up to three minutes on any subject matter other than those which are the topic of a public hearing tonight.

Speakers:

None.

Community Segment:

Energize NY: Tom Bregman from Energize NY explained that the program is designed to help homeowners make smart energy efficient choices and will also help support communities make the transition to a more sustainable and lower cost clean energy future. He added that he would like for Beacon to consider adopting the resolution implement the program in the next month or so. He said that he and his team would help homeowners with the process. He added that the Energize NY Residential Program is fully funded by NYSERDA and will not cost the City anything.

Presentation:

The Beacon Historical Society: Diane and Peter Lapis from the BHS and Karen Meyer, Artists, presented one of the prize winning hat designs for display in the City Hall.

Mayor Casale added that the BHS has recently become very active and are seeking new members.

Public Hearings:

Community Choice Aggregation Program: David Rauch and Jason Angel explained the program. They pointed out that the program will save residents money and will further us in the goal of 100% renewable energy.

Steve Voloto, Village of Cold Spring Trustee: Said that Cold Spring was looking into this program as well.
Jeff McHugh, Chestnut Street: Spoke in favor of the program. It offers the potential for cost savings and inter-municipal cooperation.

Jeff Domanski, Catherine Street: Advised that there is a State grant program "Clean Energies Grant Program", for which the City is on its way to checking off the four required steps that it would need to apply for that grant program.

Brian DiFeo: Supports the program and believes this action would be in line with the future closing of Indian Point.

Motion to Close: Council Member Ross, second Council Member Harper 6-0

Council Member Reports:

Omar Harper: No comments tonight.

Lee Kyriacou: Said he just paid his Massachusetts taxes on line. Would like the City to speak to someone at the State to inquire about using the New York State website for the payment of local taxes on line.

George Mansfield: Spoke about the Martin Luther King Parade and mentioned Sean Patrick Maloney's words "progress is not always linear – the point is to keep moving...." .

Pam Wetherbee: Agrees that we should remain unified and should make this City event better.

Peggy Ross: Advised that there was a great turn out for the Martin Luther King Parade. If you cannot get to the Womens March in Washington, there will be a Womens Vigil in Polhil Park on Saturday at 2pm.

Mayor Casale: Apologized for being late. Said that the MLK Parade was Pete Seeger's vision and thanked Bonnie Champion for keeping helping to keep it going. Also thanked the Southern Dutchess Coalition for doing this work for 39 years. Read an update about Lewis Tompkins Hose: Dennis Lehey is ratified as Asst. Chief and Corey Dubetsky is ratified as Lieutenant. The first Town Hall meeting will be held on Jan. 25 at 9am at the Memorial Building.

Anthony Ruggiero: Read the 2017 Tax Command Letter

Resolutions, Ordinances and Local Laws:

1. Resolution adopting the Local Law to Amend the City Code as it Relates to Energy Conservation (CCA)

- Motion by Council Member Ross, second by Council Member Wetherbee
6-0

2. Resolution to Make Appointments

Mayor Casale read the names of the appointees.

- Motion by Council Member Kyriacou, second by Council Member Harper
6-0

3. Resolution to Confirm the Policy for Awarding Points Under the City of Beacon Fire Department Service Award Program.

- Motion by Council Member Wetherbee, second Council Member Harper
6-0

4. Resolution to Schedule a Public Hearing for February 6, 2017 to Receive Public Comment Concerning the Proposed Updates to the Comprehensive Plan

- Motion by Council Member Harper, second by Council Member Mansfield
6-0

5. Resolution to Schedule a Public Hearing for February 6, 2017 to Receive Public Comment Concerning the Proposed Local Law Amending the Zoning Ordinance

- Motion by Council Member Kyriacou, second by Council Member Wetherbee
6-0

6. Resolution to Accept the Proposal from BFJ Planning for Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Plan Update Project

- Motion by Council Member Ross, second by Council Member Mansfield
6-0

7. Resolution Authorizing the Termination and Release of Certain Urban Obligations.

- Motion by Council Member Mansfield, second by Council Member Ross
6-0

8. Resolution Authorizing a MOA with the Fire Department.

- Motion by Council Member Harper, second by Council Member Mansfield
6-0

9. Resolution to Authorize an Agreement with EFRP, LLC for the 2016 Audit

- Motion by Council Member Wetherbee, second by Council Member Ross
6-0

Second Opportunity for Public Comments: Each speaker may have one opportunity to speak for up to three minutes on any subject matter on which the Council can take action.

Speakers:

Theresa Kraft: Asked when Council decided to change the design of the Tioronda Bridge
Steve Voloto, VOCS Trustee: Asked about the CCA local law. Nick Ward-Willis answered him

Adjournment: 8:15 PM

- Motion by Council Member Harper, second by Council Member Wetherbee
6-0

Next Meeting: February 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Evans, Assistant to the Mayor