

Regular Meeting

These minutes are for the meeting of the Beacon City Council, held in the Municipal Center at One Municipal Plaza on January 6, 2020. Please note that the video recording of this meeting is available at <https://vimeo.com/383328601>

Council Members Present:

Amber Grant, At Large
George Mansfield, At Large
Terry Nelson, Ward One
Air Rhodes, Ward Two
Jodi McCredo, Ward Three
Dan Aymar-Blair, Ward Four
Lee Kyriacou, Mayor

Council Members Absent:**Also Present:**

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

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:

Workshop Agenda Prep

January 13

1. City Council Meeting Dates

Newspaper publication for the public hearings on January 21st

Publish the vacancies to the website

Meeting with zoning, planning and planner (also council?) within next two months

Fillable and submittable application for boards and committees

Proposed dates, a facilitator and the first draft outline for two Forums on Development – one shall be on a weekday and one on a weekend

Update on the Well that is in the process of being fixed

Michal Mart

She asked if there were a monthly or bi-monthly report on the status of affordable housing in the City of Beacon.

Put MLK Day on website

Theresa Kraft

Ms. Kraft said there are several pressing issues facing the City's leadership. We must be careful that the new development compliments what we already have. Taller ou-of-scale buildings are becoming the norm instead of the exception. We need to choose preservation over demolition. The most sustainable thing we can do is to restore old buildings. The new buildings will be out of style before you blink. She said the City should join the Certified Local Government Program offers the City access to state and federal grants. She urges the new administration to uphold design standards. Movements should be deliberate, with an eye on the long view. She wished the council the best of luck oing forward.

Dennis Pavelock

Mr. Pavelock said that Mount Vernon did an active shooter drill. He said that this should be one of our priorities this year. We should not deprive our City Hall workers because it is easier to lkick the can down the road a little further.

He also said that Councilmembers who say that they have nothing to report during the council meetings falls short of their representation of their ward.

Anthony Ruggiero said that he and the City Police Chief are working on security and safety in the building.

Stosh Yankowski

Mr. Yankowski congratulated the Mayor and Councilmembers on their election victories. He said that the old people are more affected by radiation from cell phone towers. He reminded Councilmember Nelson that he said he is against four story buildings. He said that the City Planner is bias towards the developers, citing the fact that the Planner said that in the past there used to be four story buildings in the City of Beacon. He said that the resolution supporting the Paris Agreement because it is controversial.

Arthur Camins

Mr. Camins said that the community forums should include extraordinary outreach so that the audience is large and diverse. He said that in the near future that the criteria and expectations of the City's contractors be discussed in an open meeting. He said that, in particular, the City Planner's position should be looked at seriously looked at.

Michal Mart

Ms. Mart thanked the Council for their service and congratulated them. She said that the contract for the City Planner should be examined. She asked if there were a monthly or bi-monthly report on the status of affordable housing in the City of Beacon.

Council Reports

Dan Aymar Blair

Mr. Aymar-Blair said that he is excited for the development forums coming up and he his excited about. He said he plans on doing direct door-to-door outreach to inform residents about the development forums.

Amber Grant

Ms. Grant thanked the city staff for their hard work to help prepare for the City Council Swearing In Ceremony. She also thanked all of the participants in the event, she mentioned Susan Wright and the Boy Scouts.

She thanked the Traffic Safety Committee for the stop signs on Liberty and Grove Street.

The Council will be looking at all of the contracts, unfortunately there was not enough time to do it for this years' contracts. It is best practice to learn what is available to the city. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

George Mansfield

Mr. Mansfield said that he is looking forward to working with the new Council.

He thanked the Beacon Police Department for their diligence in catching the person who has been putting graffiti along Main Street. He said that (watch here).

Air Rhodes

Mx. Rhodes introduced themselves as the new Councilmember representing residents in Ward 2. They said that they received several complaints about people not clearing their sidewalks in Ward 2. They reminded residents that it is the homeowners responsibility to clear their sidewalks. They said that they're excited to hear what residents have to say, all of the Councilmembers email addresses can be found on the website.

Terry Nelson

Mr. Nelson clarified his comments from a previous meeting, saying that the number of stories that a building has are not as important as the height of the buildings themselves. He is interested in having that conversation.

He implored residents to follow the traffic laws, particularly on Main Street and Verplanck Avenue.

He said he wants to work on affordable housing and have that conversation this year.

Nick Page, County Legislator

Mr. Page said the Dutchess County has now passed a law that will allow for cameras on school busses which will help catch those who are not obeying stop signs on school buses.

Mayor Kyriacou

Mayor Kyriacou said that he has full and complete confidence in the City Administrator, Anthony Ruggiero, to run the city on a day to day basis. He said that respectfulness and civility will be a priority at meetings. He will try to run efficient meetings. Finally, he will emphasize partnership with the City Council and the community.

Watch the resolution for John Clarke

Riding Ridge Trail Resolution

Anthony Ruggiero said that this project has been going on since 2004. Part of the resolution is an additional \$5,000 for maintenance that will be completed in the Spring. The Council will discuss the pump station at the next workshop.

George Mansfield

Mr. Mansfield said that the residents on the road have been paying for water and sewer services but the city has not been maintaining the infrastructure, although the City has been accepting the sewage.

Paris Agreement Resolution

Mayor Kyriacou said that going forward he will limit (watch here)

Deborah _____

She asked about Riding Ridge Trail _____(watch here)

Bonnie Champion Charlene Stout

Martin Luther King Day Parade will be on Monday January 20th. It will have people from all walks of life. At 8 am at Mattie Cooper Square. There will be an opening ceremony in the church at 9:30. She said that she encourages people to make banners and posters. Even those who cannot walk are invited to attend and participate, they will ride along in decorated cars. There will be an essay contest for all students. Rewards have been donated by Rhinebeck Bank. Politicians typically speak in the morning, then, in the afternoon the Mayor typically speaks. There will also be a free dinner that everyone can attend. Make yourself at home.

Ms. McCredo asked if there would be any practice for the singers.

There will be a rehearsal on Main Street in Beacon at Main Street Music. Saturday at 1 pm.

Council Reports

Resolution Adopting a Local Law to Amend Chapter 211, Article II, Section 10 and Article III, Section 15 of the Code of the City of Beacon Regarding Traffic Safety

Recommendations

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Adopting a Local Law to Amend Chapter 223, Section 14, Subsection B of the Code of the City of Beacon Regarding Exterior Lighting

- Motion by Council Person McCredo
- Second by Council Person Nelson
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Adopting a Local Law to Amend Chapter 223, Sections 41.4, 41.18 and 41.21 of the Code of the City of Beacon Regarding Balconies

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo

- Resolution passes 5 - 1

Resolution Adopting a Local Law to Amend Chapter 149 and Chapter 223 Section 29 of the Code of the City of Beacon Regarding Noise

- Motion by Council Person Mansfield
- Second by Council Person Rembert

- Motion by Council Person McCredo
- Second by Council Person Nelson

Council Persons Nelson, McCredo, and Rembert voted “Yes” while Council Person Kyriacou and Mayor Casale voted “No” and Council Person Mansfield abstained.

Before the vote was called final, Council Person Kyriacou made a motion to reconsider. Second by Council Person McCredo. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Resolution Adopting a Local Law to Amend Chapter 149 and Chapter 223 Section 29 of the Code of the City of Beacon Regarding Noise

- Council Persons McCredo, Kyriacou, Rembert, and Mayor Casale voted “Yes” Council Person Nelson voted “No” and Council Person Mansfield abstained.
- Resolution Passes 5-1

Resolution Authorizing Adoption of the City of Beacon 2020 Budget

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Capital Plan

- Motion by Council Person Nelson
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Vacant Lot at the Corner of Wolcott Avenue and Beacon Street

- Motion by Council Person Mansfield
- Second by Council Person Kyriacou
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Adopting a City of Beacon Policy Regarding Naming City Property and other Locations within the City

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution to Name Baseball Field at Memorial Park the Shawn M. Antalek Field

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person Nelson
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution to Adopt Private Street Names for E911 Purposes

- Motion by Council Person Nelson
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution of Opposition to MTA Parking Fare Increases at the Beacon and New Hamburg Train Stations

Motion by Council Person Kyriacou to strike Whereas clauses # 3, 6, 7, 8

Second by Council Person Mansfield

Motion passes 6 – 0

Amended Resolution of Opposition to MTA Parking Fare Increases at the Beacon and New Hamburg Train Stations without Whereas clauses # 3, 6, 7, 8

- Motion by Council Person Mansfield

- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Setting a Public Hearing to Discuss a Proposed Local Law to Amend Chapter 134 of the Code of the City of Beacon Concerning Historic Preservation for January 21, 2020

- Motion by Council Person Nelson
- Second by Council Person Mansfield
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Setting a Public Hearing to Discuss a Proposed Local Law to Amend Chapters 223 and 210 of the Code of the City of Beacon Concerning the City's Schedule of Regulations and Associated Amendments Regarding Permitted Uses in the City of Beacon for January 21, 2020

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Setting a Public Hearing to Discuss a Proposed Local Law to Amend Chapter 223, Section 41.18.E(7) of the Code of the City of Beacon Concerning Building Height Special Permits in the CMS District for January 21, 2020

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person Nelson
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Resolution Approving an Agreement Between the City of Beacon and the Police Benevolent Association

Anthony Ruggiero

Mr. Ruggiero summarized the details of the agreement. Some of the highlights include the fact that the PBA agreed to a dedicated Main Street Patrol Officer and the fact that this new agreement will make Beacon more competitive in the market for Police Officers in Dutchess County. The entire agreement can be found here

<http://agenda.cityofbeacon.org/CoverSheet.aspx?ItemID=8441&MeetingID=504>

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person Mansfield
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes November 4, 2019

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes November 18, 2019

- Motion by Council Person McCredo
- Second by Council Person Rembert
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Budget Amendments

- Motion by Council Person McCredo
- Second by Council Person Nelson
- Resolution passes 6 - 0

Second Opportunity for Public Comment

Michal Mart

Ms. Mart requested that the City Council decide to be the lead agency for the 2 and 4 Cross Street proposed project.

She also asked for a report showing the number of occupied artists' lofts at the West End Lofts and the corresponding number of applications.

Motion to Adjourn

- Motion by Council Person Rembert
- Second by Council Person McCredo
- Resolution passes 6 - 0