



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Hadassah Mativetsky, City Council President

Sarah Dinhofer, City Clerk

## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

City Hall, 38 Hawley St, Binghamton

6pm Monday, January 22, 2024

Call to order by President Mativetsky at 6:05PM

Present: Porter, Middleton, Cavanaugh, Hotchkiss, Mativetsky, Rathmell, Dundon

Also Present: Sarah Dinhofer (City Clerk), Sophie Bergman (Corporation Counsel), Mehtasim Mahfuz (Asst. Corporation Counsel)

*The Work Session begins at 6pm. Times for RL(s)/Topics are approximate only and items may be considered earlier or later.*

*Abbreviations: CM – Council Member RL – Request for Legislation RFP – Request for Proposal RFQ – Request for Quote*

Time	Committee	Chair	RL/Topic	Pages	Presenter
6:00pm	Finance	Cavanaugh	<p><b>RL24-13:</b> Bond ordinance authorizing various capital investments in and for the City, not to exceed \$11,937,500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comptroller Shager explains bond process; this is one of many options for funding various projects proposed throughout the year. Council will need to hold a public hearing</li> <li>CM Rathmell attempts to ask a question regarding if any of these projects go over budget, but is denied</li> <li>CM Dundon asks question regarding going overbudget; Shager answers that “no project should go over budget”</li> <li>CM Cavanaugh asks about CoB flood wall obligations vs. Army Corps. obligations; Megan answers that the DEC has mandated CoB does this work</li> <li>CM Hotchkiss asks if this is a repair of work done by a previous contractor; Megan answers that this answer is not currently known to them</li> </ul>	1-12	Megan Heiman/ Chuck Shager
6:15pm	Employees	Porter	<p><b>RL24-14:</b> Amend the 2024 Engineering budget by reducing A1440.51000 (PERS SRVS-ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT) by \$33,054.02</p>	13-15	Kent Drake-Dreese



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			<p>and increasing A1440.51000 (PERS SRVS-Senior Account Clerk) by \$33,054.02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kent explains Senior Account Clerk took over Administrative Assistant role temporarily after a vacancy occurred, but has to return to original position</li> </ul>		
6:20pm	Employees	Porter	<p><b>RL24-15:</b> Amend the 2024 General Fund budget to increase AI490.51000 (PERS SRVS-IST DEPUTY) by \$8,458.67 and increase AI490.51000 (PERS SRVS-SUPT OF ST.) by \$25,375.75 and decrease AI 490.51000 (DPW COMMISSIONER) by \$33,834.42</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kent explains DPW Commissioner position has been advertised for months, but has not been filled yet. 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy and Supt. of Streets have been covering duties outside of their job descriptions and therefore need to be compensated</li> <li>CM Mativetsky asks if there has been an assessment of why the position has not been desirable to job-seekers; Kent states that other than a salary raise, not sure of other potential solutions</li> <li>CM Cavanaugh asks how the salary increases were arrived at; Kent explains that it is a combination of overlapping duties and time spent</li> </ul>	16-19	Kent Drake-Dreese
6:25pm	Planning	Hotchkiss	<p><b>RL24-16:</b> A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a professional services agreement with Labella Associates for code review of large plan sets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CM Hotchkiss asks for a broad overview of the necessity for this legislation. Chris responds that this enables Code Dept. to forgo seeking</li> </ul>	20-24	Chris Schleider



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			<p>permission to use Labella on individual projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM Mativetsky notes that City Council would like to be present at all future meetings involving RFPs/RFQs</li> <li>• CM Cavanaugh asks how many times Labella is hired on average; Chris responds that they have been hired by developers twice since summer of '23</li> </ul>		
6:30pm	Planning	Hotchkiss	<p><b>RL24-17:</b> An ordinance to amend Ch. 410 Zoning to address below-grade amenity spaces in multi-unit dwellings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaker unable to attend, discussion will be moved to following work session</li> </ul>	25-26	Tito Martinez
6:40pm	Planning	Hotchkiss	<p><b>RL24-18:</b> Hold public hearing on February 7, 2024 for NYSHCR Grant for Northshore Tower Elevator Project, per NYS HCR requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carson explains that this grant is necessary to close out the grant status</li> <li>• CM Hotchkiss requests that the hearing be advertised in the elevator in question; Carson agrees to reach out to BHA and receive permission</li> <li>• CM Hotchkiss requests a tour; Carson agrees; CM Hotchkiss expresses a general interest by Councilmembers to review all public projects</li> </ul>	27-69	Stephen Carson
6:45pm	DPW	Dundon	<p><b>RL24-19:</b> A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter an intermunicipal agreement with Broome -Tioga Stormwater coalition for Federal Phase 2 MS4 Stormwater regulation implementation in Broome and Tioga Counties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake mentions that this coalition has been very helpful in the past; we have</li> </ul>	70-77	Ron Lake



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			<p>been a part of it for a few years and it lowers expenses to share costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM Mativetsky asks who will be liaison; Ron responds that it has been him, hopes to have a new hire to take on the responsibility</li> </ul>		
6:50pm	DPW	Dundon	<p><b>RL24-20:</b> A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter Supplemental Agreement No. 4 with Barton and Loguidice for USACOE/NYSDEC pipe conduit inspection and maintenance/rehabilitation work- Phase III</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM Dundon asks why this contract is being given to a consult that has done a poor job on other work in the past; cites Rec Park overages</li> <li>• CM Rathmell asks who caused inefficiencies leading to overages prior; Ron responds that inefficiency was due to difficulty communicating with ACOE</li> </ul>	78-82	Ron Lake
6:55pm	Special Rules & Procedures	Hotchkiss	<p><b>RL24-21:</b> An ordinance requiring elected and appointed City of Binghamton officials to submit an annual financial disclosure declaration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM Hotchkiss explains that this measure is meant to increase transparency</li> <li>• CM Hotchkiss will look into penalty structures for non-reporting at CM Middleton's request</li> <li>• CM Cavanaugh asks if this will go into effect this year; CM Hotchkiss responds within 30-60 days of passage of bill</li> <li>• CM Cavanaugh asks for the full scope of who it applies to; CM Hotchkiss</li> </ul>	83-87	Nate Hotchkiss



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			<p>replies certain relevant appointments and elected officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CM Mativetsky asks where these ethics disclosures will be held; Corp. Counsel responds that there is existing guidance on this issue</li> </ul>		
7:00pm	Finance	Cavanaugh	<p><b>RL24-22:</b> An ordinance to transfer budget expense funds from the 2023 Budget to the Cash-Special Reserve Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ed Crumb will be speaking in Billie Goodson’s absence</li> <li>• CM Cavanaugh notes that Corporation Counsel has advised Council that this legislation did not pass in Village of Johnson City</li> <li>• CM Cavanaugh asks about life expectancy of turbines recently installed; Ed agrees to follow up with that information</li> <li>• CM Dundon asks about Jacobs Engineering to consider recourse; Ed replies GHD engineering led this project, while Jacobs was the construction manager. CM Dundon states that it would make more sense to seek recourse from those in charge, rather than a subcontractor</li> </ul>	88-89	Billie Goodson

*\*Please Expedite for Next Business Meeting*

Motion to adjourn at 7:33PM: Dundon

Second: Middleton

All in Favor