



# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

*Hadassah Mativetsky, City Council President*

*Sarah Dinhofer, City Clerk*

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## **COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON**

### **Business Meeting Minutes**

**City Council Chambers, 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901**

**6:00 PM Wednesday, July 24, 2024**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:01PM by President Mativetsky

#### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by President Mativetsky

#### **III. ROLL CALL**

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

#### **IV. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of Business Meeting Minutes from 7/10/2024
  - a. Motion: Dundon
  - b. Second: Middleton
  - c. All in Favor
2. Reports from Committees and Commissions
  - a. MPA: Had meeting previous Friday regarding proposed noise ordinance, working towards updated version
  - b. WSDC: Officially dissolved
  - c. BLDC: Cancelled Legal (subcommittee) due to lack of agenda
  - d. Commission for the Conservation of the Environment: Ecotoxicology subcommittee meeting will be coming up 8/8, info on City website. Commission is preparing report on Climate Action & Resiliency Plan; should be ready by September. Currently one opening on Commission, encourages applications from public
  - e. Traffic Board: Cancelled for July, but did walkthrough of 2<sup>nd</sup> District

#### **V. APPOINTMENTS**

#### **VI. SET PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **VII. PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Residents wishing to submit public comment may do so electronically by emailing their comments prior to 1:00PM on the day of the meeting to [clerk@cityofbinghamton.gov](mailto:clerk@cityofbinghamton.gov) or in-person during the meeting.



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- Dr. Misty Ann-Kirby, Binghamton resident: Here to express disappointment in vote to accept money for increased surveillance within community. Watched meeting where it was passed and still does not understand how cameras lead to enhanced public safety. Points out risk of abuse associated with surveillance systems. Cites report from UCLA states 5 conditions that should be answered before considering passage of surveillance legislation; urges Council to do better
- Carol Hawley, Southside resident: Concerned about Southside Commons; vandalism occurred 2 weeks ago during which monument was broken. Disheartened by devaluing of public statue. Trees were also illegally trimmed last year

### IX. FIRST READING LEGISLATION

#### **Introductory Resolution R24-51. Municipal and Public Affairs: Middleton**

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Fairview Recovery Services

Motion: Middleton

Second: Dundon

Discussion: CM Cavanaugh states that choice was made to disperse only funds which were set to expire by end of July; allocation source for remaining funds will be considered before remaining disbursement

Motion for CM Porter recusal: Dundon

Second: Middleton

Vote: 6-0-1-0

Abstain: Porter

Vote: 6-0-1-0

Abstain: Porter

#### **Introductory Resolution R24-62. Municipal and Public Affairs: Middleton**

A Resolution to accept funding from the District Attorney for Discovery Officer

Motion: Middleton

Second: Kosty

Vote: 6-1-0-0

Nay: Porter

#### **Introductory Resolution R24-63. Public Works and Parks: Dundon**

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a professional services agreement with Tetra Tech for the Chenango River levee bat survey

Motion: Dundon

Second: Porter

Vote: 7-0-0-0

### X. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL

CM Porter: Excited for Caribbean Festival, encourages participation. Recounts recent news around Sonya Massey and notes bad actors within policing system; reiterates concerns around increased surveillance. Expresses doubt that Mayor will take action on Attorney General's report regarding Binghamton Police Department



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CM Middleton: Walked 2<sup>nd</sup> District with Traffic Board to find potential improvements; encourages drivers to fully stop at stop signs and prioritize safety in light of additional recent accident in district

CM Cavanaugh: Reminds everyone that Porchfest is coming up – still seeking volunteers. Encourages constituents with concerns to reach out directly to himself and to CM Middleton to ensure everyone can have a great time. VINES is having community cooking lessons – upcoming event will be with Lost Dog Chef Josh using up extra tomatoes

CM Dundon: N/A

CM Kosty: Sad to see Stop & Shop Deli was shut down by City, but understands that they are working to reopen. Emphasizes that Southsiders need a place to get food that does not require a vehicle for transportation

CM Hotchkiss: Working on ongoing/new legislation

CM Mativetsky: Discovery Center has an upcoming art show/free admission night on 8/2 4-7PM, 7/27-28 will be Founder's Day weekend with a family admission price cap at Ross Park Zoo. Congratulates Southern Tier Independence Center on 1<sup>st</sup> place win for Fennec Fox-inspired "I'm All Ears" Sunday at Safari Sunday, Roberson Museum and Science Center for 2<sup>nd</sup> place win for "Lip-Smackingly Llama Corn" and Phelps Mansion Museum for 3<sup>rd</sup> place win for their African Penguin-inspired "Tuxedo Junction". Thanks nonprofits for participating and putting together fabulous event. Reminds constituents of initiative to report potholes which started back in May – has reported potholes on about 25 streets in 5<sup>th</sup> District; starting to see them get filled. Participated in walking tour with BMTS and CM Middleton; learned about potential strategies to slow traffic proactively. Has also made requests for graffiti cleanup in 6<sup>th</sup> District along river on signage. Thanks volunteers who put up fence around VINES Corbett Ave garden. Notes that 8/5 is deadline to apply to Binghamton Police Department, encourages applications

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:34PM: Middleton

Second: Porter

All in Favor