



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Giovanni Scaringi, Ph.D., City Council President
Leighton Rogers, City Clerk

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON
Business Meeting Minutes
City Hall, 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901
Wednesday, March 1, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Scaringi called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by President Scaringi

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Resciniti, Riley, Friedman, Burns (6:02pm), Strawn, Scanlon, Scaringi

Also Present: Leighton Rogers (City Clerk), Brian Seachrist (Corporation Counsel), Mehtasim Mahfuz (Assistant Corporation Counsel)

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

V. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

Approve the Minutes from the February 8, 2023 Business Meeting.

Motion: Resciniti

Second: Scanlon

Vote: 7-0-0-0

City Council Finance Committee: Scanlon (Chair), Strawn, Burns

No items to report.

City Council Planning & Community Dev. Committee: Resciniti (Chair), Scanlon, Friedman

No items to report.

City Council Municipal & Public Affairs Committee: Strawn (Chair), Resciniti, Riley

No items to report.

City Council Public Works/Parks & Recreation Committee: Resciniti (Chair), Scanlon, Riley

No items to report.

City Council Employees Committee: Strawn (Chair), Resciniti, Burns

No items to report.

City Council Rules & Procedures/Special Studies Committee: Scanlon (Chair), Strawn, Friedman

No items to report.

VI. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS



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VII. PUBLIC HEARING

1. The City of Binghamton will hold a Public Hearing regarding RL23-33, “An Ordinance to amend the zoning map to rezone portions of Henry St., Fayette St., Pine St., Lewis St., and Liberty St., in accordance with the Stadium District Master Plan”

Motion to close the public hearing: Strawn

Second: Burns

All in Favor

VIII. SET PUBLIC HEARINGS

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATION

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 or in-person during the meeting.

1. 3 Letters
2. Phil Shanahan
3. Misty Kirby

X. REVIEW OF MAYORAL VETO

XI. SECOND READING LEGISLATION

Introductory Ordinance 23-28. Considered in Planning: Resciniti

An Ordinance authorizing the sale of 180-186 Henry St., 77 Pine St., and 162 Henry St., to Kearney Realty & Development Group, Inc. for \$1

Motion: Resciniti

Second: Scanlon

Discussion: Friedman

Vote: 6-1-0-0

Nay: Friedman

Introductory Resolution 23-10. Considered in Planning: Resciniti

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Genuine Parts Company (NAPA) to provide integrated business solutions

Motion: Resciniti

Second: Scanlon

Discussion: Burns, Scanlon, Riley, Friedman, Resciniti, Strawn, Scaringi

Vote: 4-3-0-0

Nay: Riley, Friedman, Burns



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XII. FIRST READING LEGISLATION

A. PREFERRED AGENDA

Introductory Ordinance 23-36. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 General Fund budget for ambulance billing charges

Introductory Ordinance 23-39. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 General Fund budget for on call pay and ERS/PFRS retirement

Introductory Ordinance 23-40. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 Refuse Fund budget for gas/diesel

Introductory Ordinance 23-42. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance amend the 2022 BJCJSTP budget for the 5 year cycle cleaning of the digester

Introductory Ordinance 23-43. Considered in Employees: Strawn

An Ordinance to amend Chapter 124, Personnel Policies, of the Code of the City of Binghamton

Discussion: Riley

Introductory Ordinance 23-44. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 BJCJSTP budget for water line

Introductory Ordinance 23-45. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 BJCJSTP budget for local system cost

Introductory Ordinance 23-46. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to repurchase 72 Court Street from Vision 72, LLC

Introductory Resolution 23-11. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept the 2023 Broome County Youth Bureau Grant for the summer fun program

Introductory Resolution 23-12. Considered in PW/Parks: Resciniti

A Resolution authorizing the Rumble Ponies to conduct fireworks displays in 2023

Introductory Resolution 23-13. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

A Resolution authorizing the City of Binghamton to accept a Restore NY Grant from Empire State Development for 187 Clinton Street

Introductory Resolution 23-14. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Chianis & Anderson Architects PLLC for additional architectural and engineering services at Mirabito Stadium



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Motion to approve Preferred Agenda: Scanlon
Second: Strawn
Vote: 7-0-0-0

B. NON PREFERRED AGENDA

Introductory Ordinance 23-34. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 BJCJSTP budget to create a capital reserve

Motion: Strawn
Second: Scanlon
Vote: 7-0-0-0

Introductory Ordinance 23-35. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 General Fund Police budget for various items

Motion: Strawn
Second: Scanlon
Discussion: Friedman
Vote: 5-2-0-0
Nay: Riley, Friedman

Introductory Ordinance 23-37. Considered in Planning: Resciniti

An Ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Binghamton, Chapter 410, Zoning, to add additional language

Motion: Resciniti
Second: Scanlon
Discussion: Riley, Friedman
Vote: 5-2-0-0
Nay: Riley, Friedman

Introductory Ordinance 23-38. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 Water budget for various items

Motion: Strawn
Second: Scanlon
Vote: 7-0-0-0

Introductory Ordinance 23-41. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2022 Sewer Fund budget for BAN interest



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Motion: Strawn
Second: Resciniti
Vote: 7-0-0-0

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Burns
2. Strawn
3. Scanlon
4. Resciniti
5. Riley
6. Friedman
7. Scaringi

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:35pm: Riley
Second: Scanlon
All in Favor

From: Kathy Rainmaker <kathys.rainmaker@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 4:18 PM
To: Friedman, Aviva; Rogers, Leighton
Subject: 77 Pine St

I am not able to attend the meeting in person tonight but it does not change my stance on the sale of the property at 77 Pine St. As I have said more than once, the size and scope of the building is not appropriate in the neighborhood. While Pine street is a low income neighborhood we are not disposable. People that live here work in the City. We contribute financially through taxes and our paychecks also going back into the economy of the city. We have neighborhood clean up events, decorate our homes for holidays and enjoy our space to the best of our ability. Sophia was kind enough to finally mention at the last meeting that the sale of several city lots will cost \$1. As I have spoken to several of my neighbors we are each willing to chip in. I personally have \$20 to pay for the lot at 77 Pine St. That would return the lot to the tax rolls and I would even pay the taxes, no development deal required. Surely the city would not turn down a higher bid.

I think it is important for the City to remember, and all of the city council members to note. People in the City that do not look like you or sit in your same tax brackets are not disposable. We are all people that want to work together to make our neighborhoods enjoyable. It is hard to make a neighborhood enjoyable when your home is constantly being encroached on. When you determine that people are disposable, homes are disposable and families are disposable you are making the picture clear. The word of what you are doing today is called Gentrification. Call it what it is on the agenda.

Have the day you deserve,

Kathy Staples
79 Pine St.

Caution: This email originated from outside the organization. BE SUSPICIOUS of any links in the email. If this email is asking for something unusual, do not reply to the email. Contact the sender through another method, or contact the City IT department for help.

From: Nguyen, Henry
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 12:55 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Cc: Riley, Angela
Subject: 2023.02.27 City Council Work Session

To all,

While watching the city council work session last week, I noticed that Ms. Goodson was not speaking the truth when Ms. Riley asked her about auditing and inventory in the central garage. I was running the part room in the garage all by myself for a year. I filed a complaint with the Union after speaking with Ms. Goodson numerous times about hiring/replacing another worker for me. She finally posts the job and there are numerous candidates applying for it. Interviews are set up, and somehow Chuck stops it and goes a different route. Next thing I know they brought a girl name Irada down to my office. Both Chuck and Billie told me she would be the best addition to me because she has experience with inventory and she worked for the auto part before. I believed everything Chuck and Billie told me until I see Irada in action. So I asked Irada about her job background and how did she get here when they removed the posting. She told me she got hired through a temporary agent. Needless to say, that is a violation of civil service law. My job title is test position. So I contacted the Union. Not only did Ms. Goodson lie to the Union that no one applies for the job but there are 4 different well qualify candidates that applied for the job. John from Feduke (607-343-1805), Matt from Carquest (607-221-8819), Vinnie from United Auto Part (607-239-9227), etc...Bob Firmstone did call and confirm with those candidates that they did apply. We have some issues in the garage with Mr. DiRose harassing the storekeepers. I have Ms. Goodson coming down to handle the situation before getting out of hand. As we are in the middle of discussing, Irada asks Ms. Goodson a question about her status. Ms. Goodson clearly stated to Irada that she is not my equal. And that is how Irada gave the city 2 weeks' notice. Irada's number is (727-226-5826). Please call and verify the information. I have no benefit from doing this. I just want to save taxpayers money and protect jobs for other Union members. I am hoping all of our city councilmen doing the right thing by voting NO to this. I have all the witnesses to back up my statement.

Sincerely yours,
Just another concerned taxpayer.

From: Friedman, Aviva
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2023 1:38 PM
To:
Subject: Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Here is a comment I received from a Binghamton resident (not my constituent, but they live in the COB). They requested that it please be read into the record at our next business meeting:

I think that the rationale behind privatizing is pretty much always going to be as follows

1. Lower costs
2. More Efficient Operations

My generalized arguments against the above points

1. Lower costs -

a) Why exactly are costs lower?

Partially because for the most part employees aren't paid as well and don't have the same amount of protections or benefits at work. Items can be bought that were produced with slave labor, legal corners can more easily be cut etc etc

b) How much longer can we assume that costs will be lower?

Yes, in the short term privatizing may be cost saving, but why should we assume that a private company will not try to maximize profits in the long term? The success of capitalist economies rely on competition and right now this private company's competition is the government. Once the government no longer has the capacity to perform the former function that it privatized the demand for this good/service becomes more inelastic allowing the company to drive up prices as it wishes without facing drops in demand. Just like insulin! Just like missiles!

2. More Efficient Operations -

Yes, capitalism drives efficiency and certain innovation but at a certain point I think we need to ask ourselves 'is it really worth it?'. Did smart phones really better humanity? How about streaming networks? Were we not initially promised all of our favorite 22 episode seasons shows in one place without commercials for cheaper? Now we pay more than cable for all of our subscriptions that all have ads for 6 episode seasons.

Is this increase in efficiency really needed or is this just a way to incentivize privatization? Who's life will be easier from these improvements? Once things are private the government will never choose to use the funding to reverse the decision so you have to make sure that motivation is with pure intention.

Megan Carrie
City of Binghamton resident

Councilmember Aviva Friedman [\[she/her/hers\]](#)

4th District - Downtown and the North Side

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