



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Giovanni Scaringi, Ph.D., City Council President
Janine Faulkner, City Clerk

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON
Business Meeting Minutes
City Hall, 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY 13901
Wednesday, April 26, 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, Strawn, Scanlon, Scaringi

Also Present: Leighton Rogers (City Clerk), Janine Faulkner (Deputy City Clerk), Nicole Sabasowitz (Assist. Corporation Counsel), Mehtasim Mahfuz (Assist. Corporation Counsel)

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND RECOGNITIONS

Proclamation presented by President Scaringi

V. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

Approve the Minutes from the April 11, 2023 Business Meeting.

Motion: Resciniti

Second: Scanlon

Vote: 7-0-0-0

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

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.



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Giovanni Scaringi, Ph.D., City Council President
Janine Faulkner, City Clerk

VI. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS

1. City Clerk Appointment

Motion to appoint Janine Faulkner as City Clerk of the City of Binghamton: Friedman
Second: Riley

Vote:

Resciniti – Janine Faulkner
Riley – Janine Faulkner
Friedman – Janine Faulkner
Burns – Janine Faulkner
Strawn – Janine Faulkner
Scanlon – Janine Faulkner
Scaringi – Janine Faulkner

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

VIII. SET PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. The City of Binghamton will hold a Public Hearing regarding RL23-100, “An Ordinance to amend the zoning map to rezone sections of Park Avenue from R-3 to C-4.”

This public hearing will take place at 6pm during the May 10, 2023 regular City Council Business Meeting in City Council Chambers, 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY. Residents wishing to participate in the Public Hearing(s) 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.

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. Julian Shepherd
2. Mary Humphrey
3. Ryan Henehan
4. Maureen Gorgol
5. John Hardy
6. Vince

Multiple email correspondence in favor of the Façade Grant Program (Attached)

X. REVIEW OF MAYORAL VETO

XI. SECOND READING LEGISLATION



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Giovanni Scaringi, Ph.D., City Council President

Janine Faulkner, City Clerk

Reconsideration of Introductory Ordinance 23-69. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to account for lost revenue of \$500,000 per the American Rescue Plan Act Guidelines

Motion to reconsider Introductory Ordinance 23-69: Scaringi

Second: Resciniti

Vote: 5-2-0-0

Nay: Riley, Friedman

Motion: Scanlon

Second: Resciniti

Discussion: Friedman, Riley

Vote: 4-3-0-0

Nay: Riley, Friedman, Burns

Introductory Ordinance 23-70. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2023 General Fund to create the Commercial Façade Matching Grant Program

Motion: Scanlon

Second: Resciniti

Discussion: Burns, Friedman, Riley

Vote: 5-2-0-0

Nay: Riley, Friedman

XII. FIRST READING LEGISLATION

A. PREFERRED AGENDA

Introductory Ordinance 23-76. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2023 Fee Schedule to remove all outdoor café fees and costs for the 2023 season

Introductory Resolution 23-27. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept a NYS OPRH EPF Recreational Trails Program Grant

Motion to approve Preferred Agenda: Scanlon

Second: Resciniti

Vote: 7-0-0-0

B. NON PREFERRED AGENDA

Introductory Ordinance 23-75. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2023 Finance budget to defund a staff accountant and fund a junior accountant position



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Giovanni Scaringi, Ph.D., City Council President
Janine Faulkner, City Clerk

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

Introductory Ordinance 23-77. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

An Ordinance to amend the 2023 Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Facilities budget for State and Federal Emergency Disaster Assistance

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

Introductory Resolution 23-25. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a term agreement with Keystone Environmental Services for the Environmental Service Term Agreement

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

Introductory Resolution 23-26. Considered in Employees: Strawn

A Resolution authorizing a Home Rule Request to authorize the City of Binghamton to offer an optional twenty-five year retirement plan to firefighter Scott Pavlick

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

Introductory Resolution 23-28. Considered in Finance: Scanlon

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Mental Health Association of the Southern Tier for use of FY46 and FY47 CDBG Funds

Motion: Scanlon
Second: Resciniti
Discussion: Friedman
Vote: 7-0-0-0

XIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Riley
2. Friedman
3. Burns
4. Strawn



LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ▪ CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Giovanni Scaringi, Ph.D., City Council President
Janine Faulkner, City Clerk

5. Scanlon
6. Resciniti
7. Scaringi

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:15pm: Scanlon

Second: Friedman

All in Favor

From: COB_MayorKraham
Subject: FW: Commercial Facade Program Update

From: maggie martin <maggiemmartin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:01 PM
To: COB_MayorKraham <MayorKraham@cityofbinghamton.gov>
Subject: Re: Commercial Facade Program Update

attn: Mayor Kraham and Members of City Council

It was with delight that we learned of the opportunity to help address the condition of the exterior of our building. We have owned property in downtown Binghamton since 1996. and have worked and borrowed to provide a safe and attractive property. Maintaining a 150 year old masonry building is expensive. We have not been included 'in the project area' of any previous incentives.

Our Work/Live building is currently home to 8 people. Some run their business from their residence, and our commercial space provides the livelihood for 14 professional individuals. If we were to receive the requested funding from this Commercial facade grant, we would make needed repairs and improvements for the benefit of all. We urge you to make this funding available.

Thank you,

Maggie Martin, John Chesebrough
Marchez Llc.
The ART Bldg. 61 Prospect Ave
Binghamton, NY 13901
cell (607) 621-7247

From: Mark Yonaty <mark@greaterbinghamtondevelopment.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 4:00 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Cc: Kraham, Jared
Subject: Grant

To all city council members,

I can not begin to tell you how important grant programs are for property owners. Especially in upstate NY small cities like Binghamton. This allows a level of financial relief to the property owners while allowing them to update their properties with facades that are updated and reflect positive growth in Binghamton. I am available to speak about this matter if you would like. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Mark B. Yonaty
45 Lewis Street
Binghamton, New York 13901

Greater Binghamton Development II, LLC

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: COB_MayorKraham
Subject: FW: Commercial Facade Program Update

From: Kristin Maier <kristinemaier@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 8:54 AM
To: COB_MayorKraham <MayorKraham@cityofbinghamton.gov>
Subject: Re: Commercial Facade Program Update

As new commercial property owners and soon to be small business operators in an underserved area yet highly trafficked entry into the City of Binghamton, a top priority for us is creating a clean and inviting property to anchor the area. Located directly across the street from the "Welcome to Binghamton - First Ward - Northern Gateway" sign, we see tremendous potential for our property and the larger neighborhood and believe the City of Binghamton should prioritize Façade funds to strategically reach those who need expedited improvements in order to drastically improve the landscape of several city blocks- not just to support already thriving commercial districts.

We strongly encourage the Kraham administration and City Council to advance Façade funding so our work in rebuilding our neighborhoods can continue efficiently and without delay, especially in areas like The First Ward that need it the most. As the current macroeconomic climate continues to take a toll on small businesses in our area, this type of funding is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kristin Maier & Brian Egan
Owners of the future Cutler Axe Co.
333 Front Street, Binghamton

From: Joanne Arnold <jarnold4@stny.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 1:33 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Commercial facade program

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joanne Arnold <jarnold4@stny.rr.com>
Date: April 26, 2023 at 11:27:25 AM EDT
To: email-clerk@cityofbinghamton.gov
Subject: Commercial facade program

Binghamton City Council,

Cooperative Gallery 213 at 213 State Street has been in existence for 23 years at the same location. To keep up with the improvements on State Street, it would benefit the Arts District to have the facade renovated and repaired. We are a small, non-profit, artist cooperative.

We were the first gallery & have become a fixture of strong monthly art exhibitions. Our voices have a mix of diversity that serves the community. We are a blend of professional and emerging artists.

The gallery has quietly shouldered the visual arts community with exhibitions and educational programs. The restaurants and bars benefit financially from what we helped establish in the City of Binghamton with the First Friday Art Walk. Galleries have come and gone, the Cooperative Gallery 213 has remained solid.

Thank you for your time.

I hope you recognize the needs of the Art Deco District and the Cooperative Gallery 213 that has helped create the art buzz in downtown Binghamton.

Yours in art,

Joanne Thorne Arnold

Binghamton, NY

Sent from my iPad

From: Geoffrey Gould <ggould@binghamton.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 1:49 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Commercial Facade Program

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Geoffrey Gould <ggould@binghamton.edu>
Date: April 26, 2023 at 1:45:03 PM EDT
To: clerk@binghamton.gov
Subject: **Commercial Facade Program**

Dear Mayor Krahan;

This is to register my strong support for the Commercial Facade Program.

The Cooperative Gallery at 213 State Street has a long history of service to both the arts community but also to the greater Binghamton community. State Street's home to several arts organization is a benefit to Binghamton. Although our gallery has invested for years in affordable upgrades to our visibility, the Commercial Facade Program's resources would enable a larger step toward excellent visibility. Please add my name to those in support of the program.

Many thanks,
Geoffrey Gould

Sent from my iPhone

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: Betsy Williams <betsyjowilliams1944@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 10:54 AM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Commercial Facade program

To: City of Binghamton

I am writing in support of the Commercial Façade Program. Our city is blessed with beautiful old buildings which gives Binghamton the charm and character that is vital to our city. Unfortunately many of the buildings are in great need of repair. What a tragedy it would be to lose this resource. With the support of the Commercial Facade Program we can continue to build on the history and beauty of Binghamton. I sincerely encourage to support this program.

Betsy Williams,
Member of the Cooperative Gallery 213 on State Street

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: bgorman394@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 10:22 AM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Cooperative Gallery 213 Application support.

I strongly support the Cooperative Gallery213's application for a new facade. The current facade is over 20 years old. The city has spent money to update the street with new pavement and street paving. The businesses on the street should reflect this new and expensive look for State Street. The Cooperative gallery 213 is one of the original galleries in Binghamton. It needs a new look to match the look of the Binghamton Arts Council a few doors up from the gallery. If the city wants to promote State Street as the new arts center, it should support this application. In order to create a new and fitting look, the gallery needs the money from this grant to create a new facade.

Bill Gorman
bgorman394@aol.com
607 775 0305

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: Karen <bdemicco@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 10:07 AM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Cooperative Gallery 213 facade request

Please consider the application for funding facade improvements submitted by the Cooperative Gallery 213. We are a small, non profit, cooperative art gallery existing on limited funds on the newly renovated State Street. Our art exhibitions show work done by our exhibiting members and we have at least two shows a year involving the local community. We need to improve our appearance with repairs and new paint to keep up with the surrounding art district.

Without your support such facade improvements are unlikely in the near future. We appreciate any help you can provide to keep the arts alive and welcoming in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Karen Kuff-Demicco
Cooperative Gallery 213
President

Sent from my iPhone

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: david whalen <davidwhalen8@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:28 AM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Commercial Facade Program

Good morning,

I'm writing to voice my support to City Council for funding of the Commercial Facade Program.

This program would provide a unique opportunity to Business & property owners in the downtown area to address structural and cosmetic issues on their buildings that may otherwise go unaddressed due to financial constraints. It will also help further the beautification of the Downtown Business District and continue the positive momentum we've seen in recent years at a critical stage in our economic development.

Please vote to fund to the Commercial Facade Program!

Best Regards,

David
607-427-6645
Binghamtonhots.com

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: COB_MayorKraham
Subject: FW: Commercial Facade Program Update

From: Ken Rounds <kenrounds@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 9:56 AM
To: COB_MayorKraham <MayorKraham@cityofbinghamton.gov>
Subject: Re: Commercial Facade Program Update

To whom it may concern:

As a small long standing business in the City of Binghamton, we support and encourage moving forward on this program to assist a small business to update their facilities, to not only benefit, but to be a benefit to the Entire City of Binghamton Business community.

The reasoning behind the establishment of this program, are evident, and without being repetitive of the purpose of this program, helps to support the future of the City of Binghamton. Our business in particular plays a very important support for the care and safety of citizens, and provides very significant savings to the taxpayers, who without our business existence would have to pay much higher taxes if EMS care was the sole responsibility of the City of Binghamton.

We fully support this effort and thank all involved for this opportunity.

Kenneth Rounds , General Manager
Superior Ambulance Service Inc
46 Exchange St, Binghamton NY

From: COB_MayorKraham
Subject: FW: Commercial Facade Program Update

From: Sam Salamida <sam.salamida@parkoutdoor.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 10:00 AM
To: COB_MayorKraham <MayorKraham@cityofbinghamton.gov>
Subject: RE: Commercial Facade Program Update

To Whom it may Concern:

As a business on Clinton St. in Binghamton we are very excited about the Commercial Façade Program that is being made available to businesses in the City. We were very excited about the Clinton St. revitalization program that was presented last year. We know and believe in the City of Binghamton, and hope to continue doing business in the future. These programs are needed to enhance the looks of local businesses, and keep the city moving in a positive direction. Again we hope that these programs succeed in what we need to make the City a better place to operate and live in.

Best Regards,

Sam J. Salamida

Vice President / General Manager

Binghamton Division

Park Outdoor Advertising

P.O. Box 447, Binghamton, NY 13902

Phone: (607) 722-3451 Fax: (607) 724-6740

Cell: (607) 725-5315

E-Mail Sam.Salamida@Parkoutdoor.com

From: COB_MayorKraham
To: Eric Cole
Subject: RE: Commercial Façade Program Update

From: Eric Cole <eric@javajoesroasting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 10:45 AM
To: COB_MayorKraham <MayorKraham@cityofbinghamton.gov>
Subject: RE: Commercial Façade Program Update

To Whom it may concern:

As a small business owner in the City of Binghamton, I wish to voice my advocacy for the Commercial Façade Program. Our intention for our business is to take advantage of this program. From our perspective, this program serves the entire city in meaningful ways. First, it provides a visible improvement for all to notice and enjoy. There is nothing worse than run down facades that cast negative shadows across the city. We have one chance at a first impression for first time visitors for our area and having fresh look facades can only help for future visits and future dollars spent in our city. Second, small business owners do not have deep pockets and façade improvements are a lower priority than staffing, inventory, and supply chain issues. With the help of the Commercial Façade Program, the small businesses of the city can tighten the belt and with help of this program can choose to make façade improvements a higher priority.

Many Thanks,

Eric

Eric Cole

Kathy Dave and Eric's Flavored Coffee Co.

A Division of Java Joe's Roasting Company, Inc.

73 Griswold Street

Binghamton, NY 13904

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e20c252b/vHWWp7Ji6EathZeq8BNOhg?u=http://www.kathydaveanderic.com/>

607-348-0444 - Phone

877-348-0443 - Toll Free



From: COB_MayorKraham
To: Andy Wozniak
Subject: RE: Commercial Facade Program Update

From: Andy Wozniak <AWozniak@teamworld.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 1:51 PM
To: COB_MayorKraham <MayorKraham@cityofbinghamton.gov>
Subject: RE: Commercial Facade Program Update

Dear city council, the Commercial façade program is vital to our city with regards to improving the look of many of our cities' small business which play such an important role in our community. Please consider this and all the benefits of the program when voting for it.

Thank you!

Andy Wozniak
TeamWorld. Inc
498 Conklin Ave.
Binghamton, NY 13903
Main: 607-352-1410
Mobile: 607-765-2618
awozniak@teamworld.com

From: Bob M. <maximtutoring@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 6:53 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Commercial Façade Program

We attempted to apply for this grant however, we were told we couldn't because we didn't have a business in our building.. Our business is rental property. I understand that you are seeking "commercial tenants". However, we have been downtown for several years, and have added value to the downtown area. We pay commercial taxes, and have a commercial loan. What is your definition of a commercial business?

If this grant can be used to help rehabilitate the downtown area, and that means helping the downtown rental real estate, then I am all for it. Having students and young professionals downtown is vital to the cities' growth. Good rental properties provide the space for this population to access downtown and provide the fuel for growth of the same small businesses you are trying to help with this grant. If you could consider the rental industry along with the other businesses downtown, I know that would be a welcome compromise.

Bob Maxim
6072356122

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: Catherine Muss <cathy@binghamtonclub.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 4:42 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Commercial Façade Program

As President of the Binghamton Club, I am supportive of this program. It will bring back luster to the buildings to their former glory.

Bernie Marchuska, President

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: s schweitzer <stephen.schweitzer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 1:50 PM
To: COB_Clerk
Cc: Karen
Subject: support for the Commercial Facade Program

I am writing to express my support for a grant to update the facade at 213 State street.

213 State Street, home of the Cooperative Gallery for over 20 years, is THE gallery the represents Binghamton and Binghamton artists. As a collective we survive on donations from Exhibiting members and Supporting members.

Additionally, the gallery supports many local events including: Support for Ukraine, a Holiday Show for the community and various free art workshops throughout the year.

Won't you please consider our grant and help us remain a shining spot on State Street?

Cordially

Steph Schweitzer

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: Jennifer Corby <jennifercorby@phelpsmansion.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 10:33 AM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Commercial Facade Program

Good morning,

I'm writing to express my support for the funding of the Commercial Facade Program. I just applied to it to help us with our costs of refinishing the front doors of the Phelps Mansion Museum. We are a 501 c-3, non-profit organization and programs like this are crucial to helping us sustain the Mansion. The Phelps is very visible next door to the library on Court Street and maintaining the house helps bring in visitors and revenue for the City of Binghamton.

I urge you to continue this important program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer

Jennifer Corby
Executive Director
(607) 722-4873
jennifercorby@phelpsmansion.org



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: Barbara Bernstein <barbara.bernstein548@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 11:50 AM
To: COB_Clerk
Subject: Commercial facade program

I wanted to voice my support for the commercial facade program. It is important to make sure our lovely old building are preserved.

Sent from my iPad

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.