

Minutes of the special meeting of the Syracuse City Council, held on August 22, 2023, at 7:27 p.m., in a hybrid in-person/electronic format via Zoom, meeting ID 881 6355 6903, in-person in the City Council Conference Room at 1979 W. 1900 S., and streamed on the Syracuse City YouTube Channel in accordance with House Bill 5002, Open and Public Meetings Act Amendments, signed into law on June 25, 2020.

Present: Councilmembers: Lisa W. Bingham
Jennifer Carver
Jordan Savage
W. Seth Teague
Paul Watson

Mayor Dave Maughan
City Manager Brody Bovero
Deputy City Recorder Marisa Graham

City Employees Present:

Administrative Services Director Stephen Marshall
City Attorney Brienne Brass
Fire Chief Aaron Byington
Police Chief Garret Atkin
Public Works Director Robert Whiteley
Community and Economic Development Director Noah Steele
Communications Specialist Kara Finley

1. Meeting Called to Order/Adopt Agenda

Mayor Maughan called the meeting to order at 7:26 p.m. as a special meeting, with notice of time, place, and agenda provided 24 hours in advance to the newspaper and each Councilmember.

2. Authorize the Mayor to execute Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Syracuse Museum Foundation for the use, maintenance, and operation of the Syracuse Museum and the Museum Curator position.

A staff memo from the City Attorney explained the City Council, in its latest business session on August 8, 2023, voted to repeal Chapter 3.40 of the Syracuse City Municipal Code. The Council, in the ordinance repealing Chapter 3.40, also authorized the City to enter into an agreement with the Syracuse Museum Foundation for the terms of the management and operation of the Museum as well as the Curator position. A proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted and attached for the Council's review. A couple of outstanding items in the MOU, that need to be clarified are: what, if any hours of operation, the Council would like the Museum to be opened; the voting or nonvoting status of a Council appointed liaison on the Foundation Board; the full or part-time status of the Curator position; and what, if any, responsibilities the Council would like to include or exclude from the MOU. Mrs. Brass indicated she made the changes to the MOU to include making the City Councilmember liaison to a voting member, removed the long-range plan and the financial documentation, and included working with the curator to keep the museum open and operating for 40 hours a week. The Council specified that the Museum should be open or accessible at least 30 hours per week and that a sign be posted on the door of the Museum to reflect hours of operation.

COUNCIL MEMBER CARVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE SYRACUSE MUSEUM FOUNDATION FOR THE USE, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF THE SYRACUSE MUSEUM AND THE MUSEUM CURATOR POSTION. COUNCILMEMBER BINGHAM SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTE AYE.

Mayor Maughan provided a report regarding a "Syracuse Olympics" event that has been created under the City's wellness program and invited the Council to participate in the baking competition by choosing the item that participants will bake. The Council drew at random from optional items.

At 7:38 P.M. MAYOR MAUGHAN DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

City Council Special Meeting
August 22, 2023
Dave Maughan
Mayor

Cassie Z. Brown, MMC
City Recorder

Date approved: September 12, 2023