

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse City Council, held on August 13, 2024, at 9:06 p.m., in a hybrid in-person/electronic format via Zoom, meeting ID 883 7680 8099, in-person in the City Council Chambers 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: Jennifer Carver  
Brett Cragun  
Julie Robertson  
Jordan Savage  
Paul Watson

Mayor Dave Maughan  
City Manager Brody Bovero  
City Recorder Cassie Brown

City Employees Present:

Administrative Services Director Stephen Marshall  
City Attorney Colin Winchester  
Fire Chief Aaron Byington  
Police Chief Garret Atkin  
Parks and Recreation Director Kresta Robinson  
Public Works Director Robert Whiteley  
Communications Specialist Kara Finley

1. Meeting Called to Order/Adopt Agenda

Mayor Maughan called the meeting to order at 9:06 p.m. as a regularly scheduled meeting, with notice of time, place, and agenda provided 24 hours in advance to the newspaper and each Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER CRAGUN MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA. COUNCILMEMBER CARVER SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED AYE.

2. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

The following minutes were reviewed by the City Council: Regular City Council Business Meeting of July 9, 2024 and Special City Council Business Meeting of July 23, 2024.

COUNCILMEMBER CARVER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES LISTED ON THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER SAVAGE SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

4. Proposed Resolution R24-30 re-appointing Leanna Hamblin and appointing Jason Anderson, Daphne Lynch, and McKenzie Buckway to the Syracuse City Arts Council.

Arts Council leadership has requested the reappointment of Leanna Hamblin to the Arts Council Board, as well as the appointment of Jason Anderson, Daphne Lynch, and McKenzie Buckway to fill vacancies. The proposed terms of expiration are June of 2028.

“3.45.020(D) Terms of Office. The terms of office for Board members, who are not members of the Recreation Department, shall be four years. These members’ terms shall be staggered so that no more than 25 percent of the members’ terms expire at the same time. The term of office for the Recreation Department staff designated as a member of the Board should be as determined by the Department Director. Appointments to the Board should be made no later than the first City Council meeting in September of each year and shall be filled as quickly as practicable when a vacancy arises due to resignation. In circumstances where appointments are not made prior to the first City Council meeting in September of each year, said appointments shall be made as soon as reasonably possible thereafter.”

COUNCILMEMBER CARVER MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION R24-30 RE-APPOINTING LEANNA HAMBLIN AND APPOINTING JASON ANDERSON, DAPHNE LYNCH, AND MCKENZIE BUCKWAY TO THE SYRACUSE CITY ARTS COUNCIL. COUNCILMEMBER SAVAGE SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

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5. Proposed Resolution R24-33 amending the bylaws of the Syracuse City Arts Council.

A staff memo from the City Attorney explained that by ordinance and bylaws, the Arts Council's Chair is annually elected at its September meeting. The Arts Council's current bylaws limit the Chair to two consecutive one-year terms. With the exception of the current Chair (who will have completed his second consecutive term as Chair on August 31), there are no Arts Council members who are both experienced enough and available to serve as Chair beginning September 1. The Arts Council asks the Council to approve an amendment to its bylaws to allow the Chair to serve up to three consecutive one-year terms.

Mayor Maughan reviewed the staff memo.

COUNCILMEMBER WATSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION R24-33 AMENDING THE BYLAWS OF THE SYRACUSE CITY ARTS COUNCIL. COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

6. Public Hearing: Proposed Resolution R24-31 providing for the creation of the Gateway Public Infrastructure District No. 1 (PID) as an independent District; authorizing and approving a governing document; appointing a Board of Trustees; authorizing other documents in connection therewith; and related matters.

A staff memo from the City Attorney explained that pursuant to Petition filed by the D. Lawrence Cook Family Trust, the City Council is asked to create, by Resolution, the Gateway Public Infrastructure District (PID) No. 1. The creation of the PID first requires a public hearing, which will be held on August 13. In addition to the Resolution creating the PID, state law also requires the City Council to approve and adopt a Governing Document for the PID.

Mayor Maughan reviewed the memo.

Mayor Maughan opened the public hearing at 9:10 p.m. There were no persons appearing to be heard and the public hearing was closed.

COUNCILMEMBER SAVAGE MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION R24-31 PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF THE GATEWAY PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE DISTRICT NO. 1 (PID) AS AN INDEPENDENT DISTRICT; AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A GOVERNING DOCUMENT; APPOINTING A BOARD OF TRUSTEES; AUTHORIZING OTHER DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND RELATED MATTERS. COUNCILMEMBER WATSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF COUNCILMEMBER CARVER, WHO VOTED IN OPPOSITION.

7. Proposed Ordinance 2024-18 adopting the Syracuse WDC Gateway Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Project Area Plan and Budget.

A staff memo from the Community and Economic Development (CED) Department explained the proposed ordinance creates the Syracuse West Gateway Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) and adopts the plan and budget.

CED Director Steele reviewed his staff memo.

COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2024-18 ADOPTING THE SYRACUSE WDC GATEWAY COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) PROJECT AREA PLAN AND BUDGET. COUNCILMEMBER CRAGUN SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF COUNCILMEMBER CARVER, WHO VOTED IN OPPOSITION.

8. Proposed Resolution R24-32 authorizing the execution of an interlocal agreement with the Syracuse City Redevelopment Agency (RDA) relating to the diversion of property tax for the Syracuse WDC Gateway Community Reinvestment Area (CRA).

A staff memo from the Community and Economic Development (CED) Department explained the proposed Resolution authorizes the Mayor to execute, on behalf of the City, the interlocal agreement between the City and the RDA. In a related matter, the RDA will consider authorizing its Chair to execute the same interlocal agreement.

Mr. Steele reviewed his staff memo and

COUNCILMEMBER WATSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION R24-32 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SYRACUSE CITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (RDA) RELATING TO THE DIVERSION OF PROPERTY TAX FOR THE SYRACUSE WDC GATEWAY COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA). COUNCILMEMBER SAVAGE SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF COUNCILMEMBER CARVER, WHO VOTED IN OPPOSITION.

9. Public comments

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There were no public comments.

11. Recess to convene the Special Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Meeting.

Mayor Maughan recessed the City Council meeting at 9:12 p.m. to convene in the Special Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Meeting. The meeting reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

10. Mayor/Council announcements.

The Council and Mayor provided announcements about recent and upcoming community events, and other opportunities for public involvement.

12. Consideration of adjourning into Closed Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of Section 52-4-205 of the Open and Public Meetings Law for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; pending or reasonably imminent litigation; or the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property (if necessary).

COUNCILMEMBER CARVER MOVED TO ADJOURN INTO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 52-4-205 OF THE OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE CHARACTER, PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, OR PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH OF AN INDIVIDUAL; PENDING OR REASONABLY IMMINENT LITIGATION; OR THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY. COUNCILMEMBER SAVAGE SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED AYE.

The meeting recessed at 9:17 p.m. and reconvened at 9:33 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER CARVER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. COUNCILMEMBER CRAGUN SECONDED THE MOTION ALL VOTED IN FAVOR TO ADJOURN.

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

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Dave Maughan  
Mayor

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Cassie Z. Brown, MMC  
City Recorder

Date approved: September 10, 2024