

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Ordinance Committee was held on Thursday, June 12, 2014, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Council Majority Leader Paul H. Archetto, Chair
Councilwoman Sarah Kales Lee, Vice-Chair
Councilman Mario Aceto
Councilman Steven A. Stycos
Councilman Donald Botts, Jr.
Council Vice-President Michael J Farina
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.

Also Present: Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.
Council Minority Leader Michael Favicchio
Gerald Cordy, Director of Administration
Jeffrey Barone, Director of Constituent and Government Affairs
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor
Robert Strom, Finance Director
Anthony Moretti, City Council Internal Auditor
Ken Mason, Public Works Director
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committee
Heather Finger, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Councilman Aceto, seconded by Council President Lanni, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

Chair stated that at the last Council meeting, he requested the following information from the Administration and has not received any response:

- *A chart for what areas in the City the street sweepers are sweeping and what areas have been already swept.
- *damaged fence at Gladstone St. – who owns it and if the City owns it, it be repaired.

OLD BUSINESS:

4-14-1 Ordinance in amendment of Title 10, Chapter 28 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" (Overnight Parking Permits).
[\[click to view\]](#) (Cont. 5/15/2014).

Chief McKenna appeared to speak and stated that if overnight parking is implemented on both sides of the streets, he is concerned with the narrow streets in the City making it difficult for the fire trucks to be able to get through.

Councilman Aceto asked Chief McKenna if overnight parking on one side of the street was eliminated, would that alleviate this problem. Chief McKenna stated that it would help. He also stated that there may be streets in the City where they still would be too narrow, but he would have to work with the Traffic Engineer to see if there are a lot of those streets.

Council President Lanni stated that he would be in favor of forming a sub-committee comprised of a representative from the Police Department, Fire Department and Traffic Engineer to look at smaller narrow streets in the City that could be problems if this Ordinance was passed.

Councilman Aceto stated that there is a Traffic Commission in the City Code and this Commission could possibly be instituted to look into this issue.

Council President Lanni stated that the Council could form a sub-committee right now.

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Council Majority Leader Archetto, it was voted to form a sub-committee comprised of himself, the sponsors of this Ordinance, Council Vice-President Farina, Councilmen Aceto and Stycos, Chair of Ordinance Committee, a representative from the Fire Department, a representative from the Police Department and Traffic Engineer. Motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Councilman Aceto, seconded by Council Majority Leader Archetto, it was voted to continue this Ordinance to a date certain. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution proposing amendment to Section 13.01 of the Cranston Home Rule Charter and directing the Secretary of State to place on the ballot the following as a Referendum Question. (City Planning Commission Composition) [\[click to view\]](#) (Cont. 5/15/2014).

No one appeared to speak in favor or to oppose.

Councilman Aceto motioned to recommend approval of this Resolution. Council Majority Leader Archetto seconded the motion for discussion purposes.

Under Discussion:

Council President Lanni stated that the way this Commission is comprised at this time, it does not require that the members have any specific qualifications.

Councilman Aceto stated that this Commission is supposed to be an independent body, but as it stands now, it is now, it is not. All orders coming from the Executive Branch.

Councilman Santamaria stated that during his first term on the Council, this Commission had a Council member serving on it. He questioned the reason the Council member was removed. Mr. Cordy stated that Mr. Barone was on the Council during this time and he served on the Board of Contract and Purchase. He asked Mr. Barone to address this. Mr. Barone stated that when he served on the Council, he also served on the Board of Contract and Purchase. The contract for the artificial turf at the Cranston Stadium came before BOCAP and he had no other choice then to recuse himself from voting on this contract when it came before the full City Council, but he had to make it clear that he was not opposed to this contract. He also stated that the Planning Commission had influential person on this Board by having a Council member serving on this Commission. It was decided to remove that influential person and replace with a qualified elector. This went before the voters as a Charter change and it was approved. Councilman Aceto asked Mr. Barone if he obtained a ruling from the Ethics Commission from the Ethics Commission on whether if he served on one of those Boards and also serve on the City Council was a conflict. Mr. Barone stated, no, he did not.

Council Minority Leader Favicchio stated that his concern is the Planning Commission makes a decision to the Zoning Board of Review. If there is an appeal, that is appealed to the City Council.

Councilman Santamaria gave example of the new automated trash system, whereby the City Council was told BOCAP approved the contract, which the City Council had no prior notices. Worst case scenario, we should at least have a City Council liaison on those Boards.

Councilman Aceto stated that this is not the only board with this situation. There are other boards that are like this throughout the City that maybe should also be looked at.

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Councilman Aceto, it was voted to amend this Resolution as follows: leave Finance Director as a member and change membership to seven (7) members.

Under Discussion:

Mr. Cordy stated that at the last Council meeting, he was asked by Council President Lanni how many boards have Council members serving on them. He stated that of the Mayor's boards and commissions, there are none that have Council members serving on them.

Roll call was taken on motion to amend the above Resolution and motion passed unanimously.

Roll call was taken on motion to recommend approval of the above Resolution as amended and motion passed on a vote of 6-1. The following being recorded a voting "aye": Council Majority Leader Archetto, Councilwoman Lee, Councilmen Aceto, Stycos, Council Vice-President Farina and Council President Lanni -6. The following being recorded as voting "nay": Councilman Botts -1.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

3-14-02 Ordinance authorizing the City to waive any and all rights with respect to property, specifically, a portion of Assessor's Plat 16-4, Lot 183. (New London Avenue). [[click to view](#)] Referred from 5/27/2014 City Council.

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Councilman Botts, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Stycos stated that the trees that were to be planted as promised by Carpionato have not been planted yet. Mr. Cordy stated that since the last time this was requested, the Administration has had communication with Carpionato regarding this.

Solicitor Kirshenbaum asked that this Ordinance be continued.

On motion by Councilman Botts, seconded by Councilwoman Lee, it was voted to continue this Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Aceto asked who owns this property at this time. Is it the City or the State. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that the City owns the property with restrictions on it.

Council Minority Leader Favicchio stated that if this property is sold, this will solve some traffic problems in this area.

Roll call was taken on motion to continue this Ordinance and motion passed unanimously.

5-14-01 Ordinance in Amendment of Title 10, Chapter 32 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005 Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" (Atwood, Walnut Grove and Elena intersection). Council President Lanni and Councilman Santamaria. [[click to view](#)]

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Councilman Aceto, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

5-14-02 Ordinance in Amendment of Title 2 Chapter 32 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005 Entitled "Harbor Master" (Harbor Fees and Records). Councilman Stycos. [[click to view](#)]

On motion by Council Vice-President Farina, seconded by Councilwoman Lee, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

Mr. Strom explained the Harbor Master's procedures in record keeping and where the mooring permits are filed.

On motion by Council Vice-President Farina, seconded by Councilman Aceto, it was voted to amend this Ordinance as follows: line #28, add "Said revenues shall be deposited with the City Controller/Treasurer". Motion passed unanimously.

Roll call was taken on motion to recommend approval of this Ordinance as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

5-14-05 Ordinance in Amendment of Title 10, Chapter 32 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005 Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" (No Parking on Gladstone Street, North Side). Councilman Archetto. [\[click to view\]](#)

On motion by Council Vice-President Farina, seconded by Councilman Aceto, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees