

(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, March 15, 2012 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 8:25P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Paul H. Archetto, Chair
Councilman Steven A. Stycos, Vice-Chair
Councilman James E. Donahue
Councilwoman Maria A. Bucci
Council President Anthony J. Lupino

Absent: Councilman Emilio L. Navarro

Also Present: Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.
Councilman Michael W. Favicchio
Gerald Cordy, Director of Administration
Mark Capuano, Deputy Director of Administration
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor
Carlos Lopez, Director of Constituent and Government Affairs
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Jane Cormier, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Councilman Donahue, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

12-11-6 Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, "Administration and Personnel" (Repeal Classified Service). Cont. from 1/12/2012. [\[click here to view\]](#)

On motion by Councilman Donahue, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to continue this Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/NEW BUSINESS:

Manny Miguel, 123 Harper Ave., appeared to oppose to "Resolution adopting a Redistricting Plan for the City's Six Wards". He stated that he has a concern in the way it was constructed. His other concern is Waterman School. This school was previously proposed to be closed. With the proposed Redistricting Plan, it will give this area two School Committee members.

Kerri Kelleher, 83 Freedom Dr., appeared to speak regarding "Resolution adopting a Redistricting Plan for the City's Six Wards". She stated that voters in the City are not aware of this and there is no publicity regarding this Redistricting. There is a lack of transparency. She hopes that if this Plan is passed, an effort be made to notify the people of the changes.

Donald Botts, 65 Tennyson Rd., Ward 2 resident, appeared to speak regarding "Resolution adopting a Redistricting Plan for the City's Six Wards". He echoed the same concerns as stated by Mr. Miguel.

Resolution requesting the Zoning Board of Review to hearing procedures which further the further the intent of open meetings, and promote transparency in City government. [\[click here to view\]](#)

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

Resolution to support passage of Senate Bill 2012 – S2489, an Act relating to Elections. [\[click here to view\]](#)

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Donahue, it was voted to recommend approval of this Resolution.

Under Discussion:

Jackie Caruolo, City Registrar, appeared to speak and answer questions.

Roll call was taken on motion to recommend approval of this Resolution and motion passed on a vote of 3-1. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Archetto, Stycos and Donahue -3. The following being recorded as voting "nay": Councilwoman Bucci -1.

Resolution adopting a Redistricting Plan for the City's Six Wards. [\[click here to view\]](#)

Jackie Caruolo appeared to speak and gave a presentation of the Plan and presented various maps. She stated that in the redistricting committee's recommendation, consideration had been given to general assembly lines, target population numbers, and compactness of wards. Ward lines were also drawn with consideration of the small number of suitable polling locations that were ADA compliant.

Council President Lupino asked what the effect would be if no changes were made to any of the Wards. Ms. Caruolo stated that the population in Ward 1 decreased and population in Ward 2 decreased, so they had to move West to add more people. She also stated that Ward 3 gained 1,000 residents, so this Ward had to be redrawn. She also indicated changes made to Ward 5 and the Knightsville Gazebo area. Council President Lupino asked how this Plan can be amended. Chair stated that this Committee needs to accept a map and then it can be amended by the Committee.

Councilman Santamaria suggested that there be another meeting so the City Council can review the various maps presented by Ms. Caruolo.

Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that he would feel uncomfortable approving this Plan this evening of a specific letter map, since they were not in the package this evening for the public and the Committee. He also stated that these maps should be posted online for the public for future meeting.

Council President Lupino suggested continuing this Resolution to a special Ordinance Committee meeting on Thursday, March 22nd at 7:00 P.M.

Councilman Donahue stated that as to the whole issue of notifying the public, since the Herald is printed on Wednesday, this Committee cannot meet on the 22nd of March.

A question was asked as to when the deadline is to approve this Plan. Ms. Caruolo stated that the Board of Elections is asking for final approval by the beginning of April. Council President Lupino suggested holding a special Ordinance Committee meeting on March 29th at 7:00 P.M. and then hold a special City Council meeting to approve this Resolution.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilwoman Bucci, it was voted to continue this Resolution to a special Ordinance Committee meeting to March 29th at 7:00 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion in changing time of meeting

Chair stated that this issue was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees