

*(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, October 13, 2011 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 P.M. by the Chair.

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

Absent: Councilman Emilio L. Navarro

Also Present: Mark Capuano, Deputy Director of Administration  
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor  
Robert Strom, Director of Finance  
Carlos Lopez, Director of Constituent and Government Affairs  
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees  
Heather Finger, Stenographer

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Donahue, 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:**

### **PUBLIC HEARING/NEW BUSINESS**

**9-11-2** Ordinance in amendment of Title 15.12 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Housing Standards" (Non-resident Landlords Recording Requirement).  
[\[click here to view\]](#)

**Michael Behm**, RI Association of Realtors, appeared to speak and stated that this organization is opposed to this Ordinance. This will have a negative effect on the taxpayers and tenants.

**Mr. Bragnetti** appeared to oppose to this Ordinance and stated that the intent is already in place in State Legislation.

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to recommend approval of this Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

**Council Vice-President Pelletier** stated that this Ordinance is redundant.

**Councilman Archetto** asked how many out of State registered landlords there are in the City, how many are registered in Cranston and how much has been collected by the City in fines. This is the intent of the Ordinance. The intent is due to abandoned properties in the City whose owners live out of the City or out of State and the property becomes in disrepair.

**Council President Lupino** questioned how this would be enforced. Chair stated that that would be up to the Administration. Council President Lupino stated that a better way to address the issue is tighten up our existing vacant house Ordinance.

**Council Vice-President Pelletier** stated that the amount of efforts it would take to enforce this Ordinance, the City does not have the staff and resources.

**Chair** asked for Administration's position on this Ordinance. Solicitor Kirshenbaum stated that in doing research, Narragansett has had success in such an Ordinance, but Narragansett has a lot of rentals who rent to college students.

**Mr. Lopez** stated that the Mayor's position is he would not support this at this time, perhaps revisit the Ordinance as is written now regarding vacant houses and perhaps shorten the time in between notices.

**Chair**, sponsor of this Ordinance, stated that he will be withdrawing this Ordinance at this time and perhaps re-introduce another draft.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees