

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
OF THE SCHENECTADY CITY COUNCIL
May 22, 2023**

The City Council meeting was called to order by the City Council President Marion Porterfield at 7:00 P.M. in room 209, City Council chambers at City Hall.

At this time, Ms. Porterfield lead the invocation and offered a moment of silence for the 20 school children who perished in a dormitory fire in Guyana.

Ms. Porterfield then called on councilmember Doreen Ditoro to lead the pledge of allegiance.

The City Clerk called the roll and the following members of the City Council members answered to be present:

Present - Councilmembers: John Mootoveren, Doreen Ditoro, Damonni Farley, Carl Williams, Carmel Patrick, John Polimeni, and Marion Porterfield

Also Present - Mayor Gary R. McCarthy, City Clerk Samanta R. Mykoo, and Corporation Counsel Andrew B. Koldin, Esq.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 1. Regarding The Determination of the Environmental Significance of Rezoning Parcels between Hamilton, Schenectady, Strong Streets, and Parts of Summit Avenue and Mumford Street from “R-1” Single-Family District to “R-2” Two-Family District**

Ms. Porterfield invited all who wished to address the Council regarding Public Hearing #1 to come forward.

Seeing no speakers come forward, Ms. Porterfield declared the Public Hearing closed.

- 2. Regarding Rezoning Parcels between Hamilton Street, Schenectady Street, Strong Street, and Parts of Summit Avenue and Mumford Street from “R-1” Single-Family District to “R-2” Two-Family District**

Ms. Porterfield invited all who wished to address the Council regarding Public Hearing #2 to come forward.

Seeing no speakers come forward, Ms. Porterfield declared the Public Hearing closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Porterfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2023 council meeting as submitted by the City Clerk. Mr. Mootoveren made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

COMMUNICATIONS PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Official:

None.

General:

None.

Petitions:

None.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (LEGISLATIVE ITEMS):

Ms. Porterfield invited all who wished to address the Legislative Agenda to come forward or otherwise submit their comments to the City Clerk:

Elise Martin – Community Services Director, SCAP; Shared statistics highlighting the cost of housing for low-income households in the community, and noted the affects the current rate of inflation has had on it.

Seeing no speakers come forward, Ms. Porterfield declared the Privilege of the Floor regarding Legislative Items, to be closed.

INTRODUCTION OF AND ACTION UPON LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ms. Porterfield made a motion that the Council approves the Consent Agenda, the motion was moved by Mr. Mootoveren and seconded by Mr. Farley.

Consent Agenda

- Resolution No. 2023-097..... Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-098.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-099.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-100.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-101.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-102.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-103.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-104.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-105..... Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-106.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-107.....Adopted Unanimously

Resolution No. 2023-108.....Adopted Unanimously
Resolution No. 2023-109.....Adopted Unanimously

2023-110 A RESOLUTION Authorizing the Mayor or his Designee to Enter an Agreement with Schenectady Community Action Program for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$200,000 for Rental Assistance

The Motion was moved by Ms. Patrick and Seconded by Mr. Polimeni

7:0:0

Voted Aye: Mr. Mootoveren, Ms. Ditoro, Mr. Farley, Mr. Williams, Ms. Patrick, Mr. Polimeni, Ms. Porterfield

Voted Nay: None

Abstain: None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Ms. Porterfield directed all who wished to discuss any items for City Business to come forward or otherwise submit their comments to the City Clerk.

Ed Laven, Jr. – Asked the City Council to be more receptive to his complaints regarding court rulings from particular judges of the Schenectady City Court that he has disputed.

Michael Zeppieri – Thanked city maintenance staff for mowing grass on street median near his home, and thanked Councilmember Williams for his work in the community workshops he has been holding. Ended statement by reading a pre-written letter directed to the cause.

Wayne Harper – Voiced his opinions on Neil Golub and his distaste for the “New Schenectady” campaign.

Rod Hubert - Shared concerns & frustrations he’s had with how the city chooses to spend taxpayer money, and states he feels more important issues are not being addressed, such as the quality of roadways.

Seeing no other speakers come forward, Ms. Porterfield declared the Privilege of the Floor regarding City Business to be closed.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

Carl Williams – Thanked everyone for coming out and voicing their concerns. Responded to comments made by Michael Zeppieri during The Privilege of the Floor regarding City Business. Also addressed concerns about living conditions in the city.

John Mootooveren – Encouraged homeowners to take advantage of the permit application fee waiver program for exterior and roofing work.

Carmel Patrick – Congratulated the Schenectady Blue Jays on a successful re-opening. Reminded everyone to be mindful of the lives lost while celebrating Memorial Day this upcoming weekend.

Doreen Ditoro – Recognized Memorial Day and gave information to the Schenectady County website where events celebrating the holiday will be held.

John Polimeni – Expressed his disappointment with legislation that was not moved forward to the state level for consideration and what he perceived to be the proper process.

Mayor McCarthy – Questioned if legislation for requiring a petition in a summary proceeding to recover possession of real property in Schenectady to allege proof of compliance with local laws requiring rental residential property registration and licensure was moved forward.

Marion Porterfield – Addressed comments made by Councilmember Polimeni. Then recognized Memorial Day and all who served.

Adjourned:

Seeing no further business to come before the City Council, Ms. Porterfield asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved by Ms. Patrick and seconded by Mr. Mootooveren. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

A true record

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samanta R. Mykoo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

**By Samanta R. Mykoo
Schenectady City Clerk**