

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
OF THE SCHENECTADY CITY COUNCIL
May 8, 2023**

The City Council meeting was called to order by the City Council President Marion Porterfield at 7:10 P.M. in room 209, City Council chambers at City Hall.

Ms. Porterfield called on Reverend Ronald Hunt to lead the invocation.

Ms. Porterfield then called on Lt. Christopher Apa from the Schenectady Police Department to lead the pledge of allegiance.

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

Present - Councilmembers: John Mootooveren, 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.

Prior to the formal start of the meeting a promotion ceremony was held by the City's Fire Department.

At this point, Ms. Porterfield asked if there were no obligations, she would like to take agenda item thirteen out of order. There were no objections.

Resolution 2023-081 Recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month

The Resolution was moved by Mr. Farley and seconded by Mr. Mootooveren. The resolution passed unanimously.

The resolution was accepted by the members of the public who specialize Mental Health care and. They thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition and emphasized that more attention and funding need to be directed towards mental health care. Also accepting the resolution were 2 officers from the Schenectady Police Department who shared a story about a fallen team member, and why it made them want to advocate for the cause.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Regarding Amendments to the 2023-2024 Proposed HUD Annual Action Plan

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

Kathy Sullivan – Expressed concerns she has concerning the community and environment and spoke about what it means to raise a child in today's world.

Seeing no other 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 April 24, 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:

From PD. Voorhis, an email addressing item 1 – stating that it is a nightmare creation that resembles a “white cane” zone created by CDTA. Item 5 – she asks what the Planning knows about zoning and suggested that committee members from the Zoning Commission be shifted to facilitate transparency. Item 8 – she states is ridiculous because there is not enough bike traffic to drastically alter the street. Item 17 – she states that the amount of the contract is huge, but it is a win-win for transparency.

From Paula Breslin, an email asking for recognition of Michael Zeppieri for presentation of plaques to the Schenectady and Rotterdam Police Departments for the dedication and service and starting a Diversity Committee as a forum to discuss issues affecting our communities. These are both overdue and needed in the City and we thank Michael for taking the initiative and stepping up as he's done.

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:

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 Ms. Patrick and seconded by Mr. Mootooveren.

Consent Agenda

- Resolution No. 2023-09..... Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-081.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-082.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-083.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-084..... Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-085.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-086.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-087.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-088..... Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-089.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-090.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-091.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-092.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-093.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-094.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-095.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2023-096.....Adopted Unanimously

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. – Shared his frustration with the Mayor and Council for not taking action against certain Schenectady City Court Judges, after he alerted them about the issues he’s been having with his previous court rulings. Also claimed that the Mayor has been thwarting any articles

about his story in the Daily Gazette and blocking him from being able to put up a billboard regarding his issues in the City.

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 speaking up about mental health, and reminds everyone that help may be closer to them than they think. Assures residents that speeding issues on Kings Road are being addressed, but the process will take time. Advises drivers to be cognizant of others when behind the wheel.

Mayor McCarthy – Thanked everyone for coming out, and asked residents to pitch in and keep Schenectady clean, as the weather gets warmer. Wished all mothers in the city a happy Mother's Day, and urged everyone to taking their mother out to consider one of the various restaurants in downtown Schenectady.

Marion Porterfield – Thanked everyone for coming and congratulated the firefighters on their promotions.

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 Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Mootoveren. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

A true record

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

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