

COMMON COUNCIL  
of the  
CITY OF SYRACUSE

(02/23)

REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 26, 2024

1:00 P.M.

1. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*
2. *Invocation*
3. *Roll Call*
4. *Minutes – February 5, 2024*
5. *Petitions*
6. *Committee Reports*
7. *Communications*
8. -----  
*UNFINISHED BUSINESS*  
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*BY PRESIDENT HUDSON & COUNCILOR HOGAN:*

- a. *Local Law – Of the City of Syracuse to amend Section 3-102, Section 5-203, and Section 5-504 of the Charter of the City of Syracuse-1960, as amended, relative to the salaries of the President of the Council, the Councilors, Mayor, and City Auditor.*

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*NEW BUSINESS*  
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*BY PRESIDENT HUDSON:*

9. *Resolution - Approving the Appointment of Various Persons as Commissioners of Deeds for 2023/2024.*

BY COUNCILOR CALDWELL:

10. *Authorize – The design and development phases of the Kirk Park Minority Veterans Memorial Project, with Sekou Cooke STUDIO, professional architects, and the Syracuse Dunbar Post, on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs. The memorial design process involves historical and site research, community workshops for comprehensive neighborhood involvement, producing sketches, drawings, models, and images to further shape design ideas. Total cost not to exceed \$20,000, from Account #599808.8.70205. Total project cost not to exceed \$350,000, to be paid with approved ARPA Funds in the amount of \$250,000 (498-2022) and funds from the County in the amount of \$100,000.*
11. *Agreement – With Sekou Cooke STUDIO, for Research/Engagement & Design Architecture Services, to work in collaboration with Syracuse Dunbar Post for the Kirk Park Minority Veterans Memorial, on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs, monthly from the date of execution. Total cost not to exceed \$20,000 from ARPA Account #599808.8.70205. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
12. *Application & Agreement – To and with the NYS Canal Corporation under the Tourism Infrastructure and Event Grant program, in an amount not to exceed \$24,000. The grant funding will be used for the enhancement of the lights (including colored lighting) surrounding the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Clinton Square. There is a 50% local match requirement to be charged to DPW Lighting Fixtures Account #07.599807.14905.702722325.*
13. *Application & Agreement – To and with the NYS Department of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000, for the Connect Kids to Parks Field Trip Grant Program, as part of the City’s youth summer recreation program, students will learn about nature and history by going on field trips to state and federal parks, forest, historic sites, fish hatcheries and outdoor recreation areas, from April 1, 2024-March 31, 2025. There is no local match, expenses related to program activities, including bus transportation participation and other eligible expenses will be reimbursed by the grant, to be deposited in Account 01.438200.*
14. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements Project-Onondaga Greenhouse Improvements Initiative. Total amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.*
15. *Authorize - The 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements Project-Onondaga Greenhouse Improvements Initiative, on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs. Funds will be used to improve the greenhouse operation, to include replacement of the original roof system to meet existing building codes, support for controlled environmental conditions, upgrades to facility security, updates to internal building components, and other work related to the project. Total amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.*

16. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements Vehicles/Equipment Replacement Project. Total amount not to exceed \$350,000.*
17. *Authorize - The 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements-Vehicles/Equipment Replacement Project, for new and/or used vehicles, as detailed in the legislation, to expand Parks services and capabilities. Total cost not to exceed \$350,000.*
18. *Authorize - The 2023/2024 Parks & Recreation System Master Plan Project, (PRSMP), to create a comprehensive and forward-thinking strategy for the development and enhancement of Syracuse's parks, green spaces, and recreation programs, on behalf of Parks to select a qualified professional firm through the RFP process to assist with the development over a twelve-to-eighteen (12–18) month timeline, using community engagement, feedback, and stakeholder involvement. Total cost not to exceed \$150,000, charged to Account #70205.07.999999.*
19. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements Project, Eastwood Skatepark Phase II expansion located in Huntington Park. Total amount not to exceed \$50,000.*
20. *Authorize - The 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements Project, Eastwood Skatepark Phase II expansion, located in Huntington Park. Funds will be used for services which includes construction document design development, contract administration and construction management. Total amount not to exceed \$50,000.*
21. *Authorize - The 2023/2024 Parks Capital Improvements Project, Trails Amenities Improvements to City Parks, which includes replacement benches, bicycle repairs stations, masonry repairs, protective and decorative bollards, drinking fountains, necessary materials, and other pedestrian safety and amenity additions, as detailed in Schedule "A". Total amount not to exceed \$25,000, from Account 70205.07.999999.*
22. *Waiver of Residency – As set forth in Section 8-112 (2) of the Charter of the City of Syracuse – 1960, as amended, to authorize the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs to waive the residency requirement to hire up to one hundred (100) lifeguards that are non-city residents, during the 2024 Summer Season.*
23. *Waiver of Residency – As set forth in Section 8-112 (2) of the Charter of the City of Syracuse – 1960, as amended, to authorize the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs to waive the residency requirement to hire employees from the SCSD who resides outside the City to work and lead the summer youth and sports programming, during the 2024 Summer Season.*

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK:

24. *Agreement – With TelServ. d/b/a/ New Era Technology CT, to service the aging phone system and related equipment in the Police Department facilities. All required maintenance and repair services will be provided, for the period of one-year effective, July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$14,100, charged to Account #540710.01.31230. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
25. *Authorize – Payment to All Times Promotional Products, Inc., as detailed in the invoice, on behalf of the Department of Police. The Finance Department is unable to approve payment of the open invoice without proper authorization. Total cost not to exceed \$3,399 to be charged to Account #500147.34.31220.*

BY COUNCILOR PANIAGUA:

26. *Amend - Ord. #671 (09/26/2022), “Contract – With Alera Group previously known as CPI-HR for Affordable Care Act (“ACA”) consulting & dashboard access services for 2022 for a one-year period through September 19, 2023, as detailed in the legislation. Total cost not to exceed \$19,000, charged to Account #590601.01.90600.” Amend for a one-year extension, effective September 20, 2023-September 19, 2024. All other terms remain the same.*

BY COUNCILOR GETHERS:

27. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the West Genesee Street (Salina Street to City Line) Road Improvement Project, PIN 3756.24, on behalf of the Department of Engineering. Total amount not to exceed \$500,000.*
28. *Amend – Ord. #94 (02/27/2023), “Agreement – With the New York State Department of Transportation, for the Scoping, Preliminary Design Phases, Detailed Design Phase and Construction and Inspection Phase of the West Genesee Street (Salina Street to City Line) Road Improvement Project, PIN 3756.24, on behalf of the Department of Engineering. The City incurs all initial costs with subsequent 80% Federal reimbursement and 15 % Marchiselli funding through TIP. Total amount not to exceed \$12,922,000 from Account #07.599807.701079000.80405”. Total amount not to exceed not to exceed \$12,922,000”. Amend to add additional funds for the Construction and Inspection Phase in the amount of \$500,000. Total amount not to exceed not to exceed \$13,422,000.*

29. *Amend – Ord. #95 (02/27/2023) “Authorize – The Scoping, Preliminary Design Phases, Detailed Design Phase, and Construction and Inspection Phase of the West Genesee Street (Salina Street to City Line) Road Improvement Project, PIN 3756.24, on behalf of the Department of Engineering. The City incurs all initial costs with subsequent 80% Federal reimbursement and 15 % Marchiselli funding through TIP. Total amount not to exceed \$12,922,0000 from Account #07.599807.701079000.80405”. Amend to add additional funds for the Construction and Inspection Phase in the amount of \$500,000. Total amount not to exceed not to exceed \$13,422,000.*
30. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design Phrases of the RTC/Regional Market Area Mobility Improvements Project, PIN 3757.17, on behalf of the Department of Engineering. Total amount not to exceed \$312,000.*
31. *Agreement – With the New York State Department of Transportation, for the Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design Phases of the RTC/Regional Market Area Mobility Improvements Project, PIN 3757.17, on behalf of the Department of Engineering. The City incurs all initial costs with subsequent 80% Federal reimbursement through TIP. Total amount not to exceed \$312,000, the Commissioner of Finance will designate an account.*
32. *Authorize - The Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design Phases of the RTC/Regional Market Area Mobility Improvements Project, PIN 3757.17, on behalf of the Department of Engineering. The City incurs all initial costs with subsequent 80% Federal reimbursement through TIP. Total amount not to exceed \$312,000, the Commissioner of Finance will designate an account.*
33. *Agreement - With CHA Consulting, Inc., for the Preliminary Design Phase Fee for Erie Boulevard East Paving Project (Almond Street to Beech Street), PIN 3757.14. The City will incur all initial costs with subsequent 80% reimbursement from Federal funds through TIP. Total amount not to exceed \$239,000, the Commissioner of Finance will designate an account.*
34. *Amend – Ord. #752 (10/30/2023), “Appropriate Funds - From Cash Capital Account #05.120033.99999 to authorize the 2023/2024 Water Capital Equipment Replacement Project. Total amount not to exceed \$490,107, as detailed in Appendix “A.” Amend to revise the list of purchases, as detailed in the legislation, charged Account #05.5015507024.599805.83405.*
35. *Amend – Ord. #565 (08/14/2023), “Purchase w/c/b – From Hunt Underwater Specialties, underwater routine maintenance and emergency services in Skaneateles Lake to ensure proper flow, on behalf of Water, for the period of July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Total cost not to exceed \$25,000 charged to Account #540551.05.83400”. Amend to increase the amount not to exceed amount to \$85,000.*

36. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2024-2025 Water Main Replacement Project. Total amount not to exceed \$8,000,000.*
37. *Authorize – The 2024-2025 Water Main Replacement Project, on behalf of the Department of Water, to replace aging water main and to purchase pipes and materials. Total amount not to exceed \$8,000,000.*
38. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of various Pump Stations Replacement. Total amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.*
39. *Authorize – The Pump Stations Replacement Project, to replace various pump stations throughout the City that are approaching the end of their useful life with necessary improvements and upgrades. The existing layout does not meet today's codes and standards. Total amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.*

BY COUNCILOR NAVE:

40. *Resolution - To appoint Bonnke Sekarore to the Citizen Review Board to fill the vacant seat of Richard Levy as the First Council District representative for the term ending December 31, 2026.*

BY COUNCILOR HOGAN:

41. *Special Permit - To establish a new parking lot (30 parking spaces) located at 1141 West Fayette Street. No one spoke in favor or in opposition to the proposal at the Planning Commission meeting. Ryan Benz, applicant, 1153 LLC/owner*
42. *Amend – Ord. #291 (05/23/2022) “Authorize – The City to delegate Donnella V. Monk, Planner, on behalf of the Department of Neighborhood & Business Development, the authority to carry out the responsibilities of Environmental Review Certifying Officer as provided in 24 C.F.R. Part 58, NYS Homes and Community Renewal Procedures, its related Federal authorities listed in Sections 58.5 and 58.6, Section 102 of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and its related provisions in 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508. The term of the delegation will expire December 31, 2025.” Amend to remove Donnella V. Monk and delegate Cimone S. Jordan, Director of Housing & Neighborhood Planning.*

BY COUNCILOR HOGAN & COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER:

43. *Advertise Public Hearing - Relative to the (2024-2025) (Year 50) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). (Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 5:30 P.M.)*

44. *Application – To the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for the 2024-2025 (Year 50) Fourth Annual Action Plan: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (\$4,906,360) HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) (\$1,565,122) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (\$435,488). Housing Opportunities for Person with AIDS (HOPWA) \$412,909, as it relates to the draft Exhibit “A”. (Public Hearing held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 5:30 P.M.)*

BY COUNCILOR WILLIAMS:

45. *Amend - Ord. #131 (03/13/2023), “Authorize – The Department of Assessment to retain an appraiser (CNY Pomeroy Appraisers, Inc.) – for property located at 2922-2928 East Genesee Street, for property tax litigation for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 tax years. Total cost not to exceed \$10,000 plus \$300 per hour for trial preparations and testimony”. Amend to reflect a change in ownership from CNY Pomeroy Appraisers, Inc., to Colliers International Valuation and Advisory Services.*
46. *Authorize – The Department of Assessment to retain an appraiser (Bruckner, Tillett, Rossi, Cahill, & Associates) for properties located at 739 Irving Avenue (Tax Parcel 049.-09-08.0) and 808 South Crouse Avenue (Tax Parcel 049.-09-08.1), for property tax litigation for 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025 tax years, for a self-contained, trial-ready report, plus \$200 per hour for trial preparation and testimony. Total cost not to exceed \$16,500 charged to Account #13550.01.541500.*
47. *Correct Tax Rolls - (112 and 200 Kenwick Drive and Listman Avenue, and 200-206 South Geddes Street and Fayette Street West, for tax years 2023/2024) to remove board-up & clean-up charges, as outlined in Appendix “A”.*
48. *Lease Agreement - With the City of Syracuse (the “City”) and Michael J. Lynn (the “Tenant”) for the second-floor apartment above the City Water Gate House located in Skaneateles at 20 West Genesee Street, described in Exhibit “A”. The lease will be for period two (2) years, from April 1, 2024-March 31, 2026, at a monthly rent of \$900, with two (2) two-year renewal options with the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. The interest of late rent will be 12%. To be deposited in an account determined by the Commissioner of Finance.*
49. *Authorize - A Tax Exemption Agreement with Maria Regina Housing Development Fund Corporation LLC. (the “Company”) pursuant to Section 573 and Section 577 of Article 11 of the New York Private Housing Finance Law and Section 402 of the New York Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, to rehabilitate 181 new units for Senior and Workforce housing, located at 1024-1124 Court Street and Grant Boulevard (SBL 006.-10-01.6), for the period of fifteen (15) years, with one (1) fifteen (15) year renewal option subject to the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. The payment would be calculated each year based on the standard shelter rent formula (10% of the difference between gross rent minus utilities) equal to \$550 per unit.*

BY COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER:

50. *Accept – From New Jersey Community Capital in honor of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. \$10,000, to benefit initiatives that strengthen neighborhoods, improve individual and community health and well-being. Funds will be designated in support of the Proud Places Project which was launched in 2023 by NBD to strengthen investment in city neighborhood through citizen engagement, beautification, and community stewardship, to be deposited into Account #50090.*
51. *Application & Agreement – To and with NYS Empire State Development, Municipal Infrastructure Program grant, administered by New York State ConnectALL Office (CAO) in an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000, for installation of fiber optic and other broadband related infrastructure to expand the City Surge Link community broadband program. The neighborhoods on the northside and southside of the city will be prioritized. No local match required.*
52. *Agreement – With Helio Health, Syracuse Crisis & Intervention Prevention Program (SCIPP), (RFP 24-101) to administer opioid relief settlement funds, for a period of two (2) years. As part of the agreement, there are recommended projects, programs, and services that help to ameliorate the public health impact of opioid epidemic, Total allocation not to exceed \$784,126, from the Opioid Settlement Program, charged to budget line #500902.28. NBD is receiving an administration fee of 7.5% (\$106,388) Total Settlement Funding \$1,418,514.*
53. *Agreement – With Justice Innovation, West Community First Enhancement Treatment Program, (RFP 24-101) to administer opioid relief settlement funds, for a period of two (2) years. As part of the agreement, there are recommended projects, programs, and services that help to ameliorate the public health impact of opioid epidemic, Total allocation not to exceed \$100,000, from the Opioid Settlement Program, charged to budget line #500902.28. NBD is receiving an administration fee of 7.5% (\$106,388). Total Settlement Funding \$1,418,514.*
54. *Agreement – With Onondaga County Health Department, Substance Use Initiatives Prevention Program, (RFP 24-101) to administer opioid relief settlement funds, for a period of two (2) years. As part of the agreement, there are recommended projects, programs, and services that help to ameliorate the public health impact of opioid epidemic, Total allocation not to exceed \$188,000, from the Opioid Settlement Program, charged to budget line #500902.28. NBD is receiving an administration fee of 7.5% (\$106,388) Total Settlement Funding \$1,418,514.*
55. *Agreement – With Rescue Mission, Connections to Care/RM Case Management Treatment Program, (RFP 24-101) to administer opioid relief settlement funds, for a period of two (2) years. As part of the agreement, there are recommended projects, programs, and services that help to ameliorate the public health impact of opioid epidemic, Total allocation not to exceed \$240,000, from the Opioid Settlement Program, charged to budget line #500902.28. NBD is receiving an administration fee of 7.5% (\$106,388) Total Settlement Funding \$1,418,514.*



BY COUNCILOR MONTO:

56. *Advertise Public Hearing - Relative to the “Naming” of a portion of the Syracuse Inner Harbor as set forth in Appendix “A” to “Progress Park” (Map No. 117.-01-11.1) as detailed in Appendix “B”, pursuant to the General Ordinance #18-2022. (Public Hearing to be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 1:00 P.M).*
57. *Authorize – The “Naming” of a portion of the Syracuse Inner Harbor as set forth in Appendix “A” to “Progress Park” (Map No. 117.-01-11.1), for decades this portion of the Inner Harbor has been home of one of the largest LGBTQIA2+ Pride festival in Syracuse, as detailed in Appendix “B”, pursuant to General Ordinance #18-2022. (Public Hearing to be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 1:00 P.M).*
58. *Resolution - To appoint Linda J. Betts to the Citizen Review Board to fill the vacant seat of Cynthia Brunson as the Fifth Council District representative for the term ending December 31, 2025.*