

COMMON COUNCIL
of the
CITY OF SYRACUSE

(03/28)

REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 31, 2025

1:00 P.M.

1. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*
2. *Invocation*
3. *Roll Call*
4. *Minutes – March 17, 2025*
5. *Public Hearing – Relative to Item #42 - “Application – To the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for the 2025-2026 (Year 51) Fourth Annual Action Plan: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (\$4,920,269), HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) (\$1,378,112), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (\$431,217), as it relates to the draft Exhibit “A”. (Public Hearing will be held on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.)*
6. *Petitions*
7. *Committee Reports*
8. *Communications*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

BY COUNCILOR HOGAN:

- a. *Local Law – Amend – Local Law #9 (09/05/2023), as last amended by Local Law #8 (09/03/2024) to amend Sections 16-5, 16-6, 16-8, 16-10, 16-14, and 16-17 of Chapter 9, Article 16 of the Revised General Ordinances of the City of Syracuse, entitled “Tobacco Retail License,” to clarify the ability of the Division of Code Enforcement to deny applications for Tobacco Retail Licenses and to create a procedure to address the sale of tobacco to minors, as detailed in the legislation.*

- b. *Local Law – Of the City of Syracuse to grant a permanent easement to 294 West Jefferson Street to Walton Street (101.-14-01.1/2), also known as the Center Armory Building, owned by Pacific Properties, Inc. The easement will facilitate a second means of egress from the ground level storefront and will allow a doorway to enter and exit in the City-owned property located at 298 West Jefferson Street & Franklin Street (101.-14-05.1), as detailed in the legislation. The legal description is included.*

NEW BUSINESS

BY PRESIDENT HUDSON:

9. *Resolution - Approving the Appointment of Various Persons as Commissioners of Deeds for 2025/2026.*

BY COUNCILOR CALDWELL:

10. *Agreement – With Laura Reeder, to facilitate two (2) Public Art Environmental Youth and Community programs, on behalf of the Department of Parks Recreation & Youth Programs. The first program will be from April 1st to May 10th, 2025, will conclude with an exhibition of student artwork and the second from May 12th to June 26th, 2025, is designed for youth to create outdoor artwork using natural materials within various City parks. Total cost not to exceed \$1,500, from Account #01.71400.541500.*
11. *Agreement – With Hale Transportation, on behalf of the Department of Parks Recreation & Youth Programs, to provide three (3) passenger Coach buses for transportation of up to 153 youth, and 15 chaperones to Dorney Park Wildwater Kingdom on June 30, 2025. Total cost not to exceed \$14,000, (gratuity included) to be charged to Account #71400.01.540552.*
12. *Authorize - Payment to Dorney Park Wildwater Kingdom, to purchase tickets for 210 youth and a one-hour private catered lunch for 224 people that includes program facilitators of the Parks Department staff, on June 30, 2025. Total cost not to exceed \$12,000 to be charged to Account #71400.01.540552.*
13. *Authorize – Payment to Veterinary Medical Center of CNY, for emergency veterinarian services provided on behalf of the Department of Parks Recreation & Youth Programs between February 1, 2024, and May 21, 2024, which were beyond the total not to exceed amount of the contract for emergency veterinarian services as authorized by Ordinance No. 606-2023. for late outstanding invoices during FY24, (related to Ord. #606-2023). Total amount not to exceed \$2,148.41 to be charged to Account #35100.01.541500.*

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK:

14. Amend - Ord. #928 (11/12/2024), "Agreement – With OnPoint for College, to provide administrative oversight for therapeutic services to 50 high-risk City individuals, on behalf of the Mayor's Office to Reduce Gun Violence (MORGV), as detailed in the Exhibit "A" program budget. The term of the contract will be from November 1, 2024-March 31, 2025. Total amount not to exceed \$227,800.55, from Account #12105.599808.08.800057823, from Project H.E.A.L.'s remaining balance." Amend to extend the agreement to expire on September 30, 2025, due to various delays in the process. All other terms and conditions remain the same.

BY COUNCILOR PANIAGUA:

15. Agreement – With Manufacturing Association of CNY, (MACNY), the authorized administrator for the NYS Department of Labor's Registered Apprenticeship Program, to allow the City to establish registered apprenticeships for technical roles within City departments and to receive NYS grants and tax credits to supplement apprenticeship education and mentorship on an annual basis, for the period of two-years from the date of execution. Total annual cost not to exceed \$10,000 from Account #541500.01.12120.

BY COUNCILOR GETHERS:

16. Contract - With GHD Consulting Service Inc., to assist in the planning and engineering services of the City's Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Program, to comply fully with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) and the Lead and Copper Rule Improvement (LCRI) and restore public trust in the City's water system, as it relates to RFQ Reference #25-190 Lead Service Line Replacement Program Manager: The project will include several planning tasks aimed at achieving short-term compliance and developing strategies for the City to achieve long term compliance, as detailed in the scope of services Appendix "A" and Appendix "B". Total cost not to exceed \$949,700 from Account #05.83110.541500.
17. Amend - Ord. #510 (07/24/2023), "Agreement – With O'Connell Electric Company, to perform Street Lighting Maintenance, for the period of two (2) years commencing on July 1, 2023, with one (1) one-year renewal option with approval of the Mayor and Common Council. Total cost not to exceed \$900,000, to be charged to account #01.81800.540551". Amend to increase the amount to \$1,200,000. All other terms remain the same.
18. Amend – Ord. #192 (04/08/2024) "Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the DPW 2024/2025 Capital Equipment and Vehicles Program, purchases detailed in the legislation. Total amount not to exceed \$4,285,500." Amend to add three (3) Mobile Lights, one (1) Liftgate, two (2) Salters and four (4) Tippers, as detailed in the new Schedule "A". The total amount was lower than anticipated. Total amount remains the same.

19. *Amend – Ord. #193 (04/08/2024) “Authorize – The DPW 2024/2025 Capital Equipment & Vehicles Program, purchases detailed in Schedule “A”. Total cost not to exceed \$4,285,500.” Amend to add three (3) Mobile Lights, one (1) Liftgate, two (2) Salters and four (4) Tippers, as detailed in the new Schedule “A”. The total cost was lower than anticipated. Total amount remains the same.*
20. *Amend – Ord. #46 (02/03/2025) “Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2025/2026 DPW Road Reconstruction Equipment & Vehicles Capital Improvement Program, as listed in Schedule “A”. Total amount not to exceed \$4,500,000”. Amend to correct Schedule “A” from one (1) Dump Truck to three (3) Dump Trucks, as detailed in the new Schedule “A”. Total amount remains the same.*
21. *Amend – Ord. #47 (02/03/2025) “Authorize – The 2025/2026 DPW Road Reconstruction Equipment & Vehicles Capital Improvement Program, as detailed in Schedule “A”. Total amount not to exceed \$4,500,000, reimbursed through NYS DOT Programs”. Amend to correct Schedule “A” from one (1) Dump Truck to three (3) Dump Trucks, as detailed in the new Schedule “A”. There was an error in the original letter Total amount remains the same.*
22. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the DPW 2024/2025 CHIPS Reimbursable Sidewalk Project, to complete the sidewalks and roads, as detailed in Schedule “A”, which may be adjusted as needed to receive full NYS DOT reimbursement. Total cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.*
23. *Authorize – The DPW 2024/2025 Sidewalk Capital Improvement Program, to complete sidewalk on roads that are being milled & paved by City Crews or outside contractors, as detailed in Schedule “A”, which may be adjust as needed to receive full NYS DOT reimbursement, to be deposited into an account determined by the Commissioner of Finance. Total cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.*
24. *Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the DPW 2025/2026 CHIPS Reimbursable Sidewalk Project, to complete the sidewalks and roads, as detailed in Schedule “A”, which may be adjusted as needed to receive full NYS DOT reimbursement. Total cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.*
25. *Authorize – The DPW 2025/2026 Sidewalk Capital Improvement Program, to complete sidewalk on roads that are being milled & paved by City Crews or outside contractors, as detailed in Schedule “A”, which may be adjust as needed to receive full NYS DOT reimbursement, to be deposited into an account determined by the Commissioner of Finance. Total cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.*
26. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2024/2025 Traffic Management Center Equipment Capital Improvement Program. Total amount not to exceed \$30,000.*

27. *Authorize – The 2024/2025 Traffic Management Center (TMC) Equipment Capital Improvement Program, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, to allow the City to respond to changes in the transportation network by utilizing software controllers to address congestion, special events and other items. Along with monitoring signals, addressing signal outages and other maintenance and safety issues. Equipment needs include state of good repair purchases for failed and functionally obsolete traffic cameras, servers, proprietary software, and related network items. Total cost not to exceed \$30,000.*
28. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2024/2025 Radar Sign Program. Total amount not to exceed \$70,000.*
29. *Authorize – The 2024/2025 Radar Sign Program, on behalf of the Department of Public Works. The funds will be used to purchase and install new stationary radar equipment in School Zones, to allow the collection of traffic data that can be used to help in vehicle speed reduction. The upcoming sign program is as detailed in Appendix “A.” Total cost not to exceed \$70,000.*
30. *Accept – The lining of two (2) sewer manholes and the replacement of their frames and covers located at the 300 Block of Forman Avenue, by Jemal’s Fayette Park LLC, the owner of the Proposed Apartment Project (420-430 East Genesee Street), in accordance with Onondaga County’s 1:1 offset requirement (Local Law No. 1, 2011). Jemal’s Fayette Park LLC shall submit a refundable fee in the amount of \$17,000. The fee will be returned upon successful completion and City Engineer approval.*
31. *Accept – Installation of an 18” storm main and associate structures, along West Fayette Street (1100 block), by 1117 NewCo Corp., the owner of Fayette Street Condos Project, in accordance with Onondaga County’s 1:1 offset requirement (Local Law No. 1, 2011). NewCo Corp. shall submit a refundable fee in the amount of \$200,000. The fee will be returned upon successful completion and City Engineer approval.*

BY COUNCILOR HOGAN:

32. *Amend – The Revised General Ordinances of the City of Syracuse, Chapter 27, entitled “Property Conservation Code”, Sections 27-162 through Section 27-183, to create procedures to administer and enforce the City’s Certificate of Use program, as detailed in the legislation more efficiently.*
33. *License Agreement – Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (“National Grid”) for the Utility Thermal Energy Network (UTEN) Project Design Work, to perform a survey and geotechnical work on the City-owned property located at 399 Kirkpatrick Street West and Van Rensselaer Street (Tax Parcel 117.-08-01.1), to recover waste heat from the County treatment plant and provide decarbonized-electrified heating and cooling to the Inner Harbor area, during the month of April 2025, detailed in the legislation. The City shall be compensated \$2,000, deposited in Account #01.424100.*

34. *Special Permit – To establish a “Food and Beverage, Retail” business on the property situated at 1205-1209 South Geddes Street. Four (4) people spoke in favor of, and no one spoke in opposition to the proposal. Amin Assabahi, owner/applicant.*
35. *Special Permit – To establish a “Food and Beverage, Retail” business on the property situated at 2000 East Fayette Street. Two (2) people spoke in favor of, and no one spoke in opposition to the proposal. Ammar Alizadi, applicant. Rishdi Nagi, owner.*
36. *Special Permit – To establish an “Entertainment and Recreation, Indoor” business on the property situated at 303 Pulaski Street. One (1) person spoke in favor of, and no one spoke in opposition to the proposal. Salt City Enterprise, LLC, owner/applicant.*

BY COUNCILOR WILLIAMS:

37. *Agreement – With GAR Associates, for real property valuation services (RFP #25-169) that would encompass the City’s first city-wide revaluation effort since 1995, on behalf of the Department of Assessment, from May 1, 2025-March 31, 2028. During the process of about thirty (30) months GAR Associates would verify and/or correct Assessment’s existing real property data for all 41,373 properties in the City, conduct public relationships and community outreach, and build valuation models to support the reassessment of all properties, culminating in preparation of data to support Assessment’s tentative assessment roll on January 1, 2028, a scope of work is detailed in Appendix “A”: Total amount not to exceed \$1,800.000, charged to Account #13550.01.541500.*
38. *Amend – Ord. #313 (05/06/2024) “Agreement – With William McGuire, for professional services to provide SharePoint consulting services, to guide process enhancement in everyday assessment work, including automation of the existing multiple-step assessment change, exemption administration, and resub division processes, for the period of May 13, 2024 – March 31, 2025. Total amount not to exceed \$20,000 from Account #13550.01.541500. The Mayor has waived the RFP process” Amend to extend services for four (4) years, to expire March 31, 2029, to allow the City to better track the progress of the service. All other terms remain the same.*
39. *Agreement – With IPT, LLC d/b/a Paylock, to continue their assistance with parking ticket enforcement services, to include street patrol and immobilization of vehicles, the supply of boots and related software and equipment relative to booting operation, payment services and a 24/7 Help Center, on behalf of the Department of Finance/Parking Violations Bureau, for the period of three (3) years July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028, with one (1) three (3) year renewal option, with the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. Total cost not to exceed \$50 per boot application plus 28% of the parking fines, penalties and surcharges collected based on the application of the boot, as detailed in the contract, to be charged to Account #541500.01.13100. The Mayor has waived the RFP process.*

40. *Agreement – With Granicus for licensing costs of their OpenCities software product, the OpenForms legacy product, and the AzureAD Connector product, to design, maintain, and update the City website, for the period of March 30, 2025-March 29, 2026. Total cost not to exceed \$67,000, charged to Account #12140.540530.*
41. *Amend – Ord. #27 (01/21/2025) “Approve – Settlement of Tax Certiorari Proceedings – Salina St. Emerald, LLC vs The City of Syracuse, et al. – 327 Salina Street South (Tax Map No.:101.-06-05.0) and 329 Salina Street South (Tax Map No.: 101.-06-06.00) relative to the assessed value – Tax years 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024. Total settlement amount \$30,758.55”. Amend to make a correction to the legislation total settlement amount from \$30,758.55 to \$26,211.97.*

BY COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER:

42. *Application – To the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for the 2025-2026 (Year 51) Fourth Annual Action Plan: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (\$4,920,269), HOME Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) (\$1,378,112), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) (\$431,217), as it relates to the draft Exhibit “A”. (Public Hearing will be held on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.)*
43. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 127 Culbert Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
44. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 647 East Division Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
45. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 241 Grumbach Avenue, a wood house & shed, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
46. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 114 Seward Street, a wood house & barn, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
47. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 506 Marcellus Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2)*
48. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 136 Nelson Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2)*

49. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 615 Otisco Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2)*
50. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 113 Putnam Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2)*
51. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 346 West Calthrop Avenue, a wood house & garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4)*
52. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 301 East Glen Avenue & Stevens Street, a wood house and garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4)*
53. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 336 West Kennedy Street, a wood house & garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4)*
54. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 111-113 Parkside Avenue, a wood house & garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4)*
55. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 237 Boston Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 5).*

(SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA – MARCH 31, 2024)
WAIVER OF THE RULES REQUIRED TO INTRODUCE:

BY COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER AND COUNCILOR MAJOK:

56. *Approve – An installation of an Honorary Street Sign in recognition of the 65th anniversary of Webster Pond. Webster Pond has been a beloved bird sanctuary in Syracuse since 1960 and home of numerous community events and initiatives. Congratulations! In honor of the Anglers Association of Onondaga's 65 years of successful operation a temporary honorary sign will be installed at 2004 Valley Drive, for the period of one (1) year from the date of installation.*

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK:

57. *Authorize - The formation of an advisory Citizen's Review Board (CRB) Legislation Update Committee, which will consist of nine (9) committee members, over a three (3) to six (6) month period, effective April 2025-September 2025.*