

COMMON COUNCIL
of the
CITY OF SYRACUSE

(01/23)

REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2026

1:00 P.M.

1. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*
2. *Invocation*
3. *Roll Call*
4. *Minutes – January 12, 2026*
5. *Public Hearing – Relative to a proposed six (6) month moratorium on any City zoning or permit approvals of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) within the City of Syracuse (Public Hearing to be held on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 5:30 PM)*
6. *Petitions*
7. *Committee Reports*
8. *Communications*

NEW BUSINESS

BY PRESIDENT PANIAGUA:

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

BY COUNCILOR CALDWELL:

10. *Amend – Ord. #826 (12/18/2023), “Agreement – With DSI, for third party drug and alcohol testing for all City employees, including employees with Commercial Driver’s Licenses, on behalf of Personnel, for the period of two (2) years, January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025, with one (1) option to renew for a one or two-year period, with the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. Total cost not to exceed \$43,000 charged to Account #595950.01.90000”. Amend to authorize the first renewal option for the period of one (1) year, effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026. All other terms and conditions remain the same.*

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK; PRESIDENT PANIAGUA & ALL COUNCILORS:

11. *Resolution - Memorializing the Governor of the State of New York, the New York State Senate, and the New York State Assembly to support Senate Bill S.2235 and Assembly Bill A3506 entitled, "The New York for All Act", to ensure all New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status, can live, work, and participate fully in their communities without fear of deportation or entanglement with federal immigration enforcement.*

BY COUNCILOR EHRENREICH:

12. *Agreement – With Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA), to support OCRRA's battery recycling program, by placing battery collection kiosks at Magnarelli, Southwest, Northeast, and Bob Cecile Community Centers, on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs, for the period of three (3) three years effective February 1, 2026. There is no cost to the City.*
13. *Accept - From the Eastwood Neighborhood Association (ENA) a monetary donation in the amount of \$2,000, for the purchase and installation of a new bench that will be installed at Cummings Field splashpad. Parks Department and DPW will be responsible for the maintenance and installation. Funds will be deposited in Account #504770.25.71400 (TNT Special Project).*
14. *Accept - From Syracuse Inner City Rotary Club, along with Janelle E. Kraus, Kevin Fallis, and Charles Garland, a monetary donation in the amount of \$1,054, for the purchase and installation of one (1) new bench and one (1) memorial plaque at Kirk Park, in honor of the late club President, Al Turner. Parks Department and DPW will be responsible for the maintenance and installation. Funds will be deposited in Account #504770.25.71400.*
15. *Accept - From Tomorrow's Neighborhoods Today (TNT), a monetary donation in the amount of \$100 for the purchase and installation of one (1) new memorial plaque in Franklin Square, in honor of Ben Walsh the 54th Mayor of Syracuse. Parks Department and DPW will be responsible for the maintenance and installation. Funds will be deposited in Account #504770.25.71400.*
16. *Accept - From Tomorrow's Neighborhoods Today (TNT), a monetary donation in the amount of \$100 for the purchase and installation of one (1) new memorial plaque in Franklin Square Park, dedicated to TNT's contribution to the funding of special projects in the park. Parks Department and DPW will be responsible for the maintenance and installation. Funds will be deposited in Account #504770.25.71400.*

BY COUNCILOR NAVE:

17. Amend – Ord. #91 (02/18/2025) “Contract - With VeoRide Inc., to operate the Syracuse “SYNC” Program, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, for the period of one (1) year effective February 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026, with two (2) one-year renewal options subject to the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council.” Amend to authorize the first renewal option, effective February 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026. All other conditions remain the same.

BY COUNCILOR MOORE & COUNCILOR MONTTO:

18. Agreement – With AXON Enterprises, Inc, for the purchase, installation and maintenance of twenty-six (26) License Plate Reading cameras, on behalf of the Police Department, effective March 1, 2026, for the period of sixty (60) months, as detailed the attached Master Service Agreement. The first twelve (12) months will be free of charge. Total amount not to exceed \$422,636.28 from as account determined by the Commissioner of Finance. The Mayor waived the RFP process.

BY COUNCILOR MOORE:

19. Agreement – With CBH Group, Inc., for a “Post Traumatic Purpose Event for First Responders,” on behalf of the Police Department, in conjunction with the Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office (OCSO). Total cost of the event is \$50,000, split evenly. Total amount for the City not to exceed of \$25,000 from STRIVE Grant Account #592006.02.31225 Project 225106400. The Mayor waived the RFP process.
20. Bond Ordinance - Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds to be used to defray the cost of the 2026/2027 Fire Department Aerial Apparatus Replacement Program. Total amount not to exceed \$2,800,000.
21. Authorize - The 2026/2027 Apparatus Replacement Program to purchase a one-hundred ten-foot (110’) Aerial Ladder Truck, on behalf of the Department of Fire. Total cost not to exceed \$2,800,000 charged to a capital account to be determined by the Commissioner of Finance.
22. Amend – Ord. #5 (01/21/2025) “Agreement – With MultiMed Billing Service, Inc. for professional services that include ambulance billing and accounts receivable services, on behalf of the Fire Department, for the period of one-year effective February 10, 2025, with one (1) one-year renewal options remaining with the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council. Total cost not to exceed \$75,000, as detailed in the rate schedule, from Account #541500.01.34100. The Mayor has waived the RFP process.” Amend to authorize the last one-year renewal option, effective February 10, 2026. All other terms and conditions remain the same.

23. Agreement – With NYS Association of Fire Chiefs Inc. (“NYS AFC”) to utilize the SFD Training Center located at 312 State Fair Boulevard, to conduct fire service training activities during its 120th Annual Conference & Fire 2026 Expo, June 10-June 13, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$8,500 to be deposited in Account #427700.01.

BY COUNCILOR WILLIAMS:

24. Agreement – With Mosaic Consulting Group (RFP #25-266) for Software Implementation Services for UKG Pro (Human Capital Management and Payroll Modernization, from the date of execution for the period of eighteen (18) months expiring March 2027. Total cost not to exceed \$900,000, paid monthly over the term of the contract at \$50,000 per month, charged to Account #599807.07.700045423.
25. Amend – Ord #994 (12/08/2025), “Lease Agreement – With New York, Susquehanna & Western Railroad, for a portion of land located at 115 and 116-118 South Geddes Street, for \$1.00, as detailed in Appendix “A”, to be used for parking and site work enhancement for the new public safety headquarters, for the term of one year, with one (1) one-year renewal option will the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council, and maintain by the City.” Amend to also include the bridge owned by New York, Susquehanna & Western Railroad across South Geddes Street.
26. Authorize - The Department of Assessment to retain an appraiser (Colliers Valuation & Advisory Services) for the City-owned vacant land, located at 2016-2024 East Fayette Street (SBL 037.-03-03.0). Total cost not to exceed \$2,950, charged to Account #13550.01.541500.
27. Authorize - The Department of Assessment to retain an appraiser (Emminger, Newton, Pigeon & Magyar, Inc.) for the property located at 725 Harrison Street and Madison Street (SBL 048.-17-02.1). Total cost not to exceed \$3,500, charged to Account #13550.01.541500.
28. Authorize - The Department of Assessment to retain an appraiser (Bruckner, Tillett, Rossi, Cahill & Associates) for “Grape Alley” (City Right of way) located off the 100 Block of South Townsend Street, in contemplation of its abandonment and sale. Total cost not to exceed \$1,300, charged to Account #13550.01.541500.
29. Amend Ord #195 (04/14/2025), “Agreement - With Northland Communications, for a point-to-point connection to WCNY to alleviate the need for WCNY personnel to be onsite for Common Council recordings/broadcasts, to extend the contract to expire August 31, 2025, to allow for the RFP process to be completed, not to exceed \$30,000 from Account #595860, Fund 01, Department 90000”. Amend to extend the contract to expire June 30, 2026, to allow for the RFP process to be completed. Total cost not to exceed \$40,000, from Account #595860.01.90000.

30. *Agreement - With Spectrum, for the installation of an upgraded fiber-based internet service at 401 South Avenue (Southwest Community Center), at a month-to-month basis. Total cost not to exceed \$1,100 per month, from Account #595860, Fund 01 Dept 90000.*
31. *Rescind – Ord. #942 (11/24/2025), “Ord. #136 (03/25/2024), “Approve – Settlement of Tax Certiorari Proceedings – McKesson Corporation vs. The City of Syracuse, et al. – 800 Van Rensselaer Street, (Tax Map No.: 116.-01-09.0) relative to assessed value – Tax Years 2022/2023, 2023/2024”.*
32. *Amend – Ord #136 (03/25/2024), “Approve - Settlement of Tax Certiorari Proceedings – McKesson Corporation vs. The City of Syracuse, et al. – 800 Van Rensselaer Street, (Tax Map No.: 116.-01-09.0) relative to assessed value - Tax Years 2022/2023, 2023/2024” Amend to authorize a technical amendment to include a refund in the amount of \$1,523.89, as detailed in the legislation.*

BY COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER:

33. *Local Law – Amend – “Local Law #5 (03/17/2011), of the City of Syracuse to adopt the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code which includes the latest editions of the following codes: Building, Residential, Existing Building, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fuel/Gas, Energy Conservation Construction and Property Maintenance”. Amend for various provisions as detailed in the legislation, to bring the City’s Local Law up to date with current New York State Code.*
34. *Approve – The installation of an Honorary Street Sign at the intersection of West Brighton Avenue and Webster Avenue, in honor of Donna Reese, a lifelong Syracuse resident and nationally respected civil rights and disability rights advocate, whose leadership and service left a mark on the City of Syracuse. She served as NAACP President from 1998 to 2002; co-founder of the Pan-African Village at the Great NYS Fair. She was the first African American and blind individual to serve on CENTRO Board of Directors, breaking barriers and expanding representation in public transportation leadership. Following her passing she was posthumously honored by the NYS Assembly and Senate for her decades of transformative community impact. Designating this intersection as “Donna Reese Way” would be a meaningful tribute to her lifelong commitment to justice, accessibility, and community empowerment and would honor her profound contributions to the City of Syracuse.*
35. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 108 Nelson Street, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2).*
36. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 142 Nelson Street, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2).*

37. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 152 Nelson Street, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2).*
38. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 164 Nelson Street, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2).*
39. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 149 Berger Avenue, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$1. (District 3)*
40. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 117-119 Bishop Avenue, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$1. (District 3)*
41. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 121-123 Bishop Avenue, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$1. (District 3)*
42. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 226 Martin Luther King West, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4).*

BY COUNCILOR MONTO:

43. *Authorize – A Tax Exemption Agreement with a Housing Development Fund Corporation to be known as Parkside Commons Phase 1 Housing Development Fund Corporation, pursuant to Section 573 and Section 577 of Article 11 of the New York State Private Housing Finance Law and Section 402 of the New York State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, for the properties located at 1935 East Fayette Street 1951 East Fayette Street; 1961 East Fayette Street; 1965 East Fayette Street; 1953 East Fayette Street; 256 Westmoreland Avenue; 2000 East Fayette Street; 2012 East Fayette Street; and 2016-2024 East Fayette Street, to rehabilitate two hundred (200) units of affordable housing across six (6) existing buildings, and to construct two (2) buildings containing one hundred ninety-three (193) total units of affordable housing, as detailed in the legislation. The agreement will be for a 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 annual payment to the City would be 10% of gross revenue less utilities or \$550 per unit annually, plus a two percent (2%) annual escalator; the first year's liability would be \$216,150.*
44. *Special Permit – To establish a "Utility Major" to establish Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on the property located at 426 East Brighton Avenue. No one spoke in favor, and no one spoke in opposition to the proposal. Owner, Joseph Tesiero. Applicant, Terrence Nolan.*

45. *Revoke – Ord. #621 (07/01/2024) Permission – (revocable) To Flock Group, Inc., to construct, own, operate and maintain a Citywide Deployment of Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Reading (ALPR) Cameras (Solar Powered) in the City Right of Way, under a Master Services Agreement executed with the Department of Police, relative to Ord. #630-2023, in accordance with Section 15 of the Ordinance. The revocation is necessary because of the possibility that Flock has been collecting personal data that may violate the privacy of members of the public and the concerns that such data may be inappropriately shared. This legislation demands the removal of Flock cameras from the City right of way.*
46. *Revoke – Ord. #817 (09/16/2024) Permission – (revocable) To Flock Group, Inc, to construct, own, operate and maintain a single pole mounted Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Reading (ALPR) Camera (Solar Powered) in the City Right of Way at the intersection of Headson Drive & Thompson Road, under an agreement with the Town of Dewitt Police Department, in accordance with Section 15 of the Ordinance. The revocation is necessary because of the possibility that Flock has been collecting personal data that may violate the privacy of members of the public and the concerns that such data may be inappropriately shared.*
47. *Zone Change – For the property situated at 153-155 Fage Avenue, from the Low Density Residential (R2) Zone District to the Small Lot Residential (R3) Zone District. One person spoke in favor of, and no one spoke in opposition to the proposal. Applicant, Office of Zoning Administration, Owner, Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation.*
48. *Resolution – To re-appoint Linda J. Betts to the Citizen Review Board as the Fifth Council District representative for the term ending December 31, 2028.*

(SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA – JANUARY 26, 2026)
WAIVER OF THE RULES REQUIRED TO INTRODUCE:

BY COUNCILOR WILLIAMS:

49. *Resolution – To re-appoint Joseph J. Saya to the Board of Assessment Review for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2030 pursuant to Section 523 of the NYS Real Property Tax Law.*