

Regular Meeting

These minutes are for the regular meeting of the Beacon City Council, held in the Municipal Center at One Municipal Plaza on June 5, 2017. Please note that the video recording of this meeting is available at <http://vimeo.com/channels/40154>.

Council Members Present:

Lee Kyriacou, At Large
George Mansfield, At Large
Peggy Ross, Ward One
Omar Harper, Ward Two
Pamela Wetherbee, Ward Three
Ali Muhammad, Ward Four
Randy Casale, Mayor

Council Members Absent/Excused:**Also Present:**

Anthony Ruggiero, City Administrator
Nick Ward-Willis, City Attorney

A moment of silence was observed for those who serve and have served in the US military

First Opportunity for Public Comments: Each speaker may have one opportunity to speak up to three minutes on any subject matter other than those which are the topic of a public hearing tonight.

Speakers:

Jason Hughes: Showed 6 images to council and asked them to identify which one was not art. Feels that there is no code provision regarding the display of art on private property. Feels that what is happening to him is selective censorship. Feels that this practice makes the community weaker.

Samantha Britton: Said that she has been speaking on the same issue for a while now. Feels that the current formula for affordable housing does not address the current crisis. Single mothers and families should have priority. Thanked the Beacon Rec. Dept. for the positive steps they take for the environment. Mentioned how New Paltz has prohibited plastic shopping bags.

David Ross: Is concerned about locating the firehouse on the Dog Park site. Is worried about response time. Mentioned enhancing EMS services.

Clara Davis: Came to speak on the art/sign issue. Gave his credentials for commenting on the subject. Mentioned the quote – The Solution to Free Speech is More Free Speech. Hopes the City Council will have an open mind.

Daniel Aubrey: Recommends that the Council create a tourism committee to promote the City. Offered to serve on the committee.

Clark Gebman: Spoke about the Texaco site.

Theresa Kraft: Feels that Beacon's historical treasures are in jeopardy due to over development. If things continue, Beacon will be overpriced and over populated.

Community Segment:

Dennis Pavelock: Gave an update on the plans for Independence Day.

Public Hearings:**Special Use Permit for Property Located at 177 Main Street****Speakers:**

Clark Gebman: Would like to know why homeowners who live and raise their families in Beacon are not permitted to turn their homes into two family to pass on to their kids.

Motion to close the public hearing: Council Member Muhammad, second Council Member Harper
7-0

Council Member Reports:

Ali Muhammad: Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Gave an update on the Terrance Wright Basketball League. Asked to be updated on the sign/art issue.

Omar Harper: Attended the trail opening. Gave thanks to Michelle in the BHS Guidance Dept. who organized Career Day. Asked for clarification on the Charter changes.

Lee Kyriacou: Asked for an update on our Climate Smart status. Support the Clearwater sailing to Washington.

George Mansfield: Advised that the election process is beginning again and candidates will be going door to door to ask for signatures. Thanked the Greenway Trail committee for the work that they do. Referred to the trail by the gorge as the Grand Canyon of Beacon.

Pam Wetherbee: Attended the Greenway Trail opening. Was happy to see the stripping in the Towne Crier parking lot.

Peggy Ross: Agreed that the Greenway Trail is wonderful. Gave thanks to Tim Dexter for his presentation. Feels he is particularly valuable as a building inspector and carpenter. Mentioned that Tim presented some very interesting before and after photos of buildings in Main Street. Would to see about adding them to the website. Also, would like to look into curbside composting.

Jerry Landisi: Gave details on the Elder Abuse program in Poughkeepsie. Gave an update on the County's legislative items.

Anthony Ruggiero: no comments.

Mayor Randy Casale: Attended the Greenway Trail opening and thanked Jim Korn and the Committee for their vision and the work that they do. Gave the details of the community yard sale and the Community Choice Aggregation workshop.

Resolutions, Ordinances and Local Laws:**1. Resolution No. 59 - Granting a Special Use Permit for Property Located at 177 Main Street**

- Motion by Council Member Muhammad, second by Council Member Mansfield
7-0

2. Resolution No. 60 - to Appoint Brian Tortora as a Wastewater Treatment Plan Maintenance Helper

- Motion by Council Member Muhammad, second by Council Member Ross

7-0

3. Resolution No. 61 - to Appoint Russell Joseph as a Laborer in the Highway Department

- Motion by Council Member Muhammad, second by Council Member Wetherbee

7-0

4. Resolution No. 62 – to Appoint Helena Laurina to the Human Relations Commission.

- Motion by Council Member Mansfield, second Council Member Muhammad

7-0

5. Resolution No. 63 – in Support of Hudson River Sloop Clearwater’s Sail to Washington, DC to Maintain Clean Water and Other Environmental Protections

- Motion by Council Member Kyriacou, second Council Member Ross

7-0

Approval of Minutes of May 15, 2017:

- Motion by Council Member Muhammad, second by Council Member Wetherbee

7-0

Second Opportunity for Public Comments: Each speaker may have one opportunity to speak for up to three minutes on any subject matter on which the Council can take action.

Speakers:

Kelly Ellenwood: Advised that this the 28th year of the Calico Ball at the High School and gave details. Feels that it would be sad if our creative community had to be fearful to display their creations.

Ori Elan: Supports the “No Hate, No Fear” art and handed out copies of the message.

Adjournment:

- Motion by Council Member Muhammad, second by Council Member Ross

7-0

Next Workshop: June 12, 2017

Next Meeting: June 19, 2017