

COMMON COUNCIL
of the
CITY OF SYRACUSE

(03/14)

REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 17, 2025

1:00 P.M.

1. *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*
2. *Invocation*
3. *Roll Call*
4. *Minutes – March 3, 2025*
5. *Petitions*
6. *Committee Reports*
7. *Communications*
8. -----
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.*

BY COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER:

- b. *Local Law – Amend – Local Law #9-2017 (12/18/2017), as last amended by Local Law #9-2019 (09/23/2019), to amend Section 1-96 of Article IV of Chapter 1, of Part L, the Local Laws of the City of Syracuse, entitled “Decisions and Judgments” to authorize the addition of unpaid fines and penalties imposed by the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication (BAA) to the property taxes of the parcels to which they relate and to clarify the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication’s authority to enter civil judgements, as detailed in the legislation.*

NEW BUSINESS

BY PRESIDENT HUDSON:

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

BY COUNCILOR CALDWELL:

10. 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, forests, historic sites, fish hatcheries and outdoor recreation areas, from April 1, 2025-March 31, 2026. Funds will be deposited in Account 01.438200. There is no local match.
11. Application & Agreement – With the NYS Department of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, as part of the City's youth summer recreation program, to accept entry into the LADDERS to the Outdoors Program at no cost. The program will offer participation in outdoor programming, recreational activities, connecting the kids with state parks, outdoor recreation and nature, fostering a lifelong love of the outdoors, from April 1, 2025-March 31, 2026.
12. Amend – Ord. #827 (09/30/2024), "Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost of the 2024/2025 Hanover Square Fountain Rehabilitation Project. Total amount not to exceed \$1,000,000." Amend to increase the amount by \$300,000. Total cost not to exceed \$1,300,000.
13. Amend – Ord. #828 (09/30/2024), "Authorize – The 2024/2025 Hanover Square Fountain Rehabilitation Project, on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation & Youth Programs, for the rehabilitation, including professional services, materials, and construction, of the Hanover Square Fountain and various areas within Hanover Square. Total cost not to exceed \$1,000,000." Amend to increase the amount by \$300,000. Total cost not to exceed \$1,300,000.
14. Purchase w/c/b – From Bohlmann, Inc., security planters and barriers at Clinton Square, for the period of March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026, on behalf of the Parks Department, in collaboration with the DPW and SPD. Total cost not to exceed \$55,000 charged to Account #70205.07.599807 and #71100.01.540541.

BY COUNCILOR MAJOK:

15. *Agreement – With SUNY Upstate Medical University for the purpose of conducting reality-based training at the Harrison House, located at 80 Presidential Plaza, for the period of three (3) years, from March 1, 2025-February 28, 2028, with a three-year (3) renewal option subject to the approval of the Mayor and the Common Council.*
16. *Agreement – With Axon Enterprises, Inc., to renew the Axon Air subscription, to allow the Police Department to stream most UAS flights, automatically track hours flown of each UAS, notifies when maintenance is required, and captures all critical data from each flight (flight path, flight duration, flight elevation etc). The term of the contract will be for five (5) years effective March 1, 2025-February 28, 2030. Total amount not to exceed \$111,820.80, charged to the Law Enforcement Tech Grant Account #592003.02.31225 Project #207632325.*
17. *Agreement – With Axon Enterprises, Inc., to provide the Police Department with Axon Air Remote licensing, along with equipment, and related software. Axon Air Remote is part of a “Drone as a First Responder” program, allowing the Department to fly UAS without being physically present. The term of the contract will be for five (5) years effective March 1, 2025-February 28, 2030. Total amount not to exceed \$57,001.20, charged to the Law Enforcement Tech Grant Account #592003.02.31225 Project #207632325.*
18. *Agreement – With Axon Enterprises, Inc., to provide the Police Department with Axon MSAT licensing and related software, which will allow the mobile streaming of video for Department drones that are utilized during a SWAT operation. Axon MSAT will give Incident Commanders a live view of a SWAT operation as they happen, providing them with critical decision-making information in real-time. The term of the contract will be for five (5) years effective March 1, 2025-February 28, 2030. Total amount not to exceed \$12,000 charged to the Law Enforcement Tech Grant Account #592003.02.31225 Project #207632325.*
19. *Amend – Ord. #971 (12/09/2024), “Agreement – With Liberty Resources, Inc, to continue working in collaboration with the Police Department (911) to provide Mobile Crisis Response Services, to persons in crisis exhibiting mental health and/or substance abuse related behaviors, that includes deploying mental health professionals to the incident resulting from a call to a dispatch of law enforcement from a 911 center, to expire June 30, 2025. Total amount not to exceed \$415,211”. Amend to increase the amount by \$300,000, from Account #541500.01.31230 (cumulative total amount not to exceed \$715,211). The Mayor waived the RFP process. All other terms and conditions remain the same.*

20. *Authorize - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Syracuse Police Department and LeMoyne College on behalf of the Police Department, to provide a crime analyst, anti-violence coordinator and other necessary items to support and coordinate strategies, for the period of one (1) year beginning on the date of execution. Total cost not to exceed \$280,610, paid for by the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Grant, from Account #599802.02.31225 Project #205534025.*

BY COUNCILOR GETHERS:

21. *Purchase w/c/b – From Cascade Engineering, Inc., trash and recycling carts, lids and parts, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, for the period of July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. Total cost not to exceed \$20,000 charged to Account #01.81600.540543.*
22. *Amend – Ord. #807 (12/24/2023), “Agreement - With C&S Engineering, Inc, for the Scoping, Preliminary Design Service Fee and add additional funds for the Detail Design Fee for the East Brighton Avenue Paving Project (Thurber Street to Seneca Turnpike), PIN 3756.80. The City will incur all initial costs with a subsequent 80% reimbursement from Federal funds and 15% from Marchiselli funds. Total amount not to exceed \$752,000, be charged to Account #07.599807.700375680. (Ord. #703-2021)”. Amend to increase by \$1,345,000 to add the Construction Inspection & Support Fee. Total amount not to exceed \$2,097,000.*
23. *Amend – Ord. #57 (02/25/2019), “Application & Agreement - To and with the Dormitory Authority of the NYS and Municipal Facilities Program Funding, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 for the Road Repaving and Improvement Project for Grant Boulevard and Park Street.” Amend to replace the description with: “said funds will be use for the Dig Once Construction Projects along the 300 Block of North Beech Street”.*
24. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost for the Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design and ROW Incidental Phases of the TAP 2023 New Shared Use Path on the West Side Trail Project, PIN 395089. Total amount not to exceed \$1,020,000.*
25. *Agreement – With N.Y.S. Department of Transportation for the Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design and ROW Incidental Phases of the TAP 2023 New Shared Use Path on the West Side Trail Project, PIN 395089, in an amount not to exceed \$1,020,000. The City will incur all initial costs with subsequent 80% reimbursement from Federal funds through TIP. Total project cost not to exceed \$4,930,000.*
26. *Authorize – The Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design and ROW Incidental Phases of the TAP 2023 New Shared Use Path on the West Side Trail Project, PIN 395089, in an amount not to exceed \$1,020,000. The City will incur all initial costs with subsequent 80% reimbursement from Federal funds through TIP. Total project cost not to exceed \$4,930,000.*

27. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost for the Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design Phases of the TAP 2023 Inner Harbor Area Sidewalk Improvements Projects, PIN 395088. Total amount not to exceed \$575,000.*
28. *Agreement – With N.Y.S. Department of Transportation for the Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design and ROW Incidental Phases of the TAP 2023 Inner Harbor Area Sidewalk Improvements Project, PIN 395089, in an amount not to exceed \$575,000. The City will incur all initial costs with subsequent 80% reimbursement from Federal funds through TIP. Total project cost not to exceed \$3,933,000.*
29. *Authorize – The Scoping, Preliminary & Detailed Design and ROW Incidental Phases of the TAP 2023 Inner Harbor Area Sidewalk Improvements Project, PIN 395089, in an amount not to exceed \$575,000. The City will incur all initial costs with subsequent 80% reimbursement from Federal funds through TIP. Total project cost not to exceed \$3,933,000.*

BY COUNCILOR HOGAN:

30. *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.*
31. *Special Permit – To establish Restaurant on the property situated at 623-625 Wolf Street. No one spoke in favor, and one (1) person spoke in opposition to the proposal. Gregory Nies, East Coast Housing LLC, owner/applicant.*
32. *Authorize – The City of Syracuse to adopt a Negative Declaration pursuant to the SEQR Act, as it relates to Appendix “A” to dispose of real property located at 1025 Sunnycrest Road, (“the Property”). The action is related to an ordinance authorizing long-term leasehold interest to the Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA).*
33. *Lease Agreement – With the City of Syracuse (“the “City”) and Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA) for a long-term leasehold interest in the real property known as Eastwood Heights, located at 1025 Sunnycrest Road, (SBL 027.-09-01.3, known as “the Property”). The property contains a three-story brick apartment building with 49 units. SHA and a private-sector development partner will undertake a full renovation of the property that will add four residential units, for a total of 53 apartments. The City seeks to convey a seventy-five (75-year) leasehold interest in the Property to SHA. In exchange for an interest in “the Property,” SHA will convey to the City several considerations, which detailed in the legislation. A SHA Board approved Resolution is included. This agreement is associated with a purchase of a portion of 927 South State Street (Latimer Terrance) and an ongoing effort of the City and Blueprint 15 to develop a Children’s Rising Center (CRC) on the property.*

34. *Authorize – The City of Syracuse to adopt a Negative Declaration pursuant to the SEQRA Act, as it relates Appendix “A” relative to the Department of Public Works request to acquire real property located at 927 South State Street, also known as Latimer Terrace (the “Property”), related to the ongoing efforts of the City and Blueprint 15 to develop a Children’s Rising Center (CRC) on the property.*
35. *Acquire – An approximately 186,393.50 square foot portion of property located at 927 South State Street (to be resubdivided from the parcel identified as SBL 095.-08-01.0), commonly known as Latimer Terrace (the “Property”) from the Syracuse Housing Authority, as detailed in the legislation. This proposed acquisition is related to the ongoing efforts of the City and Blueprint 15 to develop a Children’s Rising Center (CRC) on the property, in which the City will come back to Council to authorize a lease agreement with Blueprint.*
36. *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.*
37. *Accept – From Empire State Development, (ESD) an investment grant to undertake capital improvements to the Southwest Community Center including exterior façade enhancements, and interior building improvements including the locker rooms, bathrooms, and the gymnasium. Total amount not to exceed \$1,115,000. The investment is part of the City’s Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) funding that was awarded by NYS to support the areas of the City known as the Southwest Gateway. Funds will be deposited in an account determined by the Commissioner of Finance.*
38. *Bond Ordinance – Authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds of the City of Syracuse to defray the cost for the Capital Improvements of the Southwest Community Center. Total amount not to exceed \$1,115,000.*
39. *Authorize – The Southwest Community Center Capital Improvements Project, located at 401-445 South Avenue & Clover Street, which includes exterior façade enhancements, interior building locker rooms, bathrooms, and gymnasium improvements. Total amount not to exceed \$1,115,000, fully reimbursed from a grant awarded from ESD as part of the City’s Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) funding that was awarded by NYS to support the areas of the City known as the Southwest Gateway. Funds will be deposited in an account determined by the Commissioner of Finance.*

BY COUNCILOR WILLIAMS:

40. *Agreement – With Troy Banks Consultants LLC., to conduct a cable television franchise fee compliance audit for verifying the accuracy of the franchise fees paid or due to the City, as detailed in the legislation, from the date of execution for a period of six months. There is no cost to the City if no recoverable underpayment is identified. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*
41. *Application & Agreement - To and with the NYS Archives for a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund in an amount not to exceed \$75,000, to hire a consultant to assess the records storage area in the basement of City Hall and make recommendations to make it more suitable for record storage. There is no local match.*

BY COUNCILOR JONES-ROWSER:

42. *Amend – The Revised General Ordinances of the City of Syracuse, Article 13 “Bureau of Administrative Adjudication” of Chapter 27, the “Property Conservation Code of the City of Syracuse”, to amend Section 27-195 “Decisions and Judgments” to authorize the addition of unpaid fines and penalties imposed by the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication (BAA) to the property taxes of the parcels to which they relate and to clarify the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication’s authority to enter civil judgements, as detailed in the legislation.*
43. *Amend – Ord. #53 (02/03/2025), “Agreement – With Home HeadQuarters, Inc., to complete lead remediation repairs for affordable rental unit properties that will be for income eligible tenants. The location of the properties is detailed in the legislation. Total amount not to exceed \$176,050 from Account #593004.01.93004 Project #800029622. The Mayor waived the RFP process.” Amend to remove the property located at 187-189 Lincoln Avenue from the legislation.*
44. *Agreement – With Home HeadQuarters, Inc., to complete full lead remediation repairs for four (4) units at located at 187-189 Lincoln Avenue (Unit 1-4) in collaboration with the County’s Department of Health and Department of Community Development. Upon completion of the work, the property will be maintained by Syracuse Model Neighborhood Corporation to be used as interim rental housing families with young children who have elevated blood lead levels and are temporarily displaced from their existing housing due to lead paint hazards. Total project cost not to exceed \$493,150. Total cost to the City not to exceed \$250,000 from Account #593004.01.93004, Project #800029622. The remaining cost of \$243,150 will be the responsibility of the County, as detailed in the commitment letter. The Mayor waived the RFP process.*

45. *Advertise Public Hearing - Relative to the (2025-2026) (Year 51) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). (Public Hearing will be held on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.)*
46. *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.)*
47. *Permission - To Evaristo Hernandez, on behalf of Mohamed Alzokari owner of the property located at 825 Teall Avenue for two (2) sets of pressure treated lumber steps that will encroach approximately 3’11” into the Herbst Avenue right-of-way.*
48. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 316 Bruce Street, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326. (District 4)*
49. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 127 Garfield Avenue, a wood house and garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326. (District 4)*
50. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 512 Bear Street, a stucco house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
51. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 204 Carbon Street, a wood house & garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
52. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 2106 Court Street, a wood house & garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
53. *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)*
54. *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)*
55. *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)*

56. *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)*
57. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 116 Strand Place, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 1)*
58. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 129 Eureka Street, a wood house & garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 2)*
59. *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)*
60. *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)*
61. *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)*
62. *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)*
63. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 225 Deforest Road & East Genessee Parkway, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 3)*
64. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 129 West Brighton Avenue, a wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4)*
65. *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)*
66. *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)*

67. *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)*
68. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 300-302 Palmer Avenue & Sterling Avenue, a vacant lot, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 4)*
69. *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)*
70. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 213 Ashworth Place, a wood house unfinished, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 5)*
71. *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)*
72. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 419 Elm Street, a stucco & wood house, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 5)*
73. *Sell – All right, title and interest of the City of Syracuse in and to the premises known as 1621 Glencove Road & Conklin Avenue, a wood house and garage, to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation for the total sum of \$326 (District 5)*