



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Common Council

Alder Jeff Coe
Alder Mollie Jones
Alder John Tate II
Alder Edwin Santiago Jr
Alder Melissa Kaprelian
Alder Jeffrey Peterson
Alder Maurice Horton
Alder Marcus West
Alder Trevor Jung
Alder Sam Peete
Alder CJ Rouse
Alder Henry Perez
Alder Natalia Taft
Alder Jason Meekma
Alder Melissa Lemke

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

7:00 PM

Virtual

Public Comment Registration Link:

https://cityofracine-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ItYk38hFQ_qriTQ7gCzT5A

A. Call To Order

PRESENT: 10 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse and Meekma

EXCUSED: 4 - Kaprelian, Perez, Taft and Lemke

B. Pledge of Allegiance To The Flag

Mayor Mason led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. Approval of Journal of Council Proceedings (Minutes)

August 17th, 2021

August 31st, 2021

A motion was made by Alder Tate II, seconded by Alder Coe, that this be to Approve the Minutes. The motions PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 10 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse and Meekma

EXCUSED: 4 - Kaprelian, Perez, Taft and Lemke

D. Proclamations

[0735-21](#)

Subject: Hispanic Heritage Month

E. Public Comments

The following people appeared to speak before the Common Council:

*Mercedes Dzindzeleta
Kristin Latus*

Closed Session

The Common Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(g), to confer with legal counsel concerning strategy with respect to litigation in which the City of Racine is involved.

Alder Taft arrived to meeting at 7:05 P.M.

A motion was made Alder Taft, seconded by Alder Tate II, to go into closed session. The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYES: 11 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft and Meekma

EXCUSED: 3 - Kaprelian, Perez and Lemke

Open Session

A motion was made Alder Coe, seconded by Alder Tate II, to go into open session. The motion Passed by the following vote:

AYES: 11 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft and Meekma

EXCUSED: 3 - Kaprelian, Perez and Lemke

F. Committee Reports

Finance and Personnel Committee Report, by Ald. Taft

[0683-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Taft, on behalf of the City Attorney, requesting the City Attorney meet with the Finance and Personnel Committee concerning litigation in which the City is involved, specifically *Gilliam, et al., v. City of Racine*, Racine County Circuit Court Case No. 21 CV 755.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 08-30-2021: To approve the negotiated settlement as presented in the amount of \$15,000.

Fiscal Note: Funds are available in Account 11202 53500 Judgment and Claims

A motion was made by Alder Taft, seconded by Alder Santiago Jr, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 11 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft and Meekma

EXCUSED: 3 - Kaprelian, Perez and Lemke

[0664-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Taft, on behalf of the Benefits Manager, requesting approval of Benefits Broker and Consulting Services (as solicited by Official Notice 3-2021) and the permission to enter into a professional services contract with Hays Companies, Inc.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 08-30-2021: That the request to enter into a professional services contract with Hays Companies, Inc. for benefit broker and consulting services be approved. Further, that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute a professional services contract with Hays Companies, Inc. for benefit broker and consulting services.

Fiscal Note: Contract amount is for \$100,000 in 2022 and will be incorporated in the 2022 budget under insurance professional services 70312 52100.

A motion was made that this Communication be Approved as Presented. The motion was Approved on Voice Vote in Consent.

[0665-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Taft requesting to allow Brad Viegut of RW Baird to present the proposed issuance of NANs (Note anticipation Notes) to fund the budgeted 2021 Capital Projects and Equipment Replacements.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 08-30-2021: To authorize the issuance and sale of Note Anticipation Notes in an amount of approximately \$15,205,000 for the City's 2021 Short and Long Term capital borrowing.

Fiscal Note: Long term capital projects of \$11,779,059 and equipment of \$3,421,700 have been approved and budgeted in 2021 through this borrowing.

A motion was made that this Communication be Approved as Presented. The motion was Approved on Voice Vote in Consent.

[0688-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West, and Alder Taft on behalf of the Assistant Director of Human Resources requesting to reclassify the position of Crime Analysis Clerk

from Grade F to Grade I on the compensation structure.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 08-30-2021: To Approve reclassification of the Crime Analysis Clerk position

Fiscal Note: Funds are included in the 2021 budget and will be incorporated in the 2022 budget. Salary range for a Grade I is \$58,864-\$75,649.60.

A motion was made that this Communication be Approved as Presented. The motion was Approved on Voice Vote in Consent.

[0697-21](#)

Subject: Communication from Mayor Mason requesting an allocation of \$450,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for eviction prevention activities.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 08-30-2021: That the request from Mayor Mason to allocate a total of up to \$450,000 in ARPA funding to Racine County for eviction prevention activities be approved. Further that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to enter into a contract with Racine County pursuant to all local, state, and federal regulations.

Fiscal Note: A total of \$500,000 in ARPA funds have been reserved for activities including eviction prevention by Common Council Resolution No. 0583-21. Sufficient funding exists to meet this request.

A motion was made by Alder Taft, seconded by Alder Tate II, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 10 - Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft and Meekma

NOES: 1 - Coe

EXCUSED: 3 - Kaprelian, Perez and Lemke

Planning Heritage and Design Report, by Ald. Jung

[0670-21](#)

Subject: Request by Vincent Lang, representing ReBelle Realty LLC, for consideration of a conditional use permit to operate a real estate brokerage office, classified as a business and professional office, as allowed Sec. 114-328 of the Municipal Code in an existing building at 3624 Washington Avenue. (PHDC-21)

Recommendation of the Planning, Heritage, and Design Commission on 08-25-21: That the request by Vincent Lang, representing ReBelle Realty LLC, for consideration of a conditional use

permit to operate a real estate brokerage office in an existing building at 3624 Washington Avenue be approved, subject to conditions a. - g.

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alder Tate, seconded by Alder Peete, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 11 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft and Meekma

EXCUSED: 3 - Kaprelian, Perez and Lemke

Committee of the Whole Report, by Ald. Tate II

Alder Lemke arrived at 7:36 P.M.

0709-21

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Tate, II requesting to discuss the process for filling the vacancy for the 9th Aldermanic District.

Recommendation of the Committee of the Whole on 09-01-2021:

That the process for filling the vacancy for the 9th Aldermanic District be to appoint a new Alder for the 9th District to fulfill a term until a Special Election is held in Spring of 2022.

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alder Jones, seconded by Alder Taft, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 12 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft, Meekma and Lemke

EXCUSED: 2 - Kaprelian and Perez

0710-21

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Meekma proposing the attached Code of Conduct Policy be adopted.

Recommendation of the Committee of the Whole on 09-01-2021:

That the attached Code of Conduct Policy be Approved.

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alder Meekma, seconded by Alder Taft, that this Communication be Amended to include Standing Committees, to change gender reference to gender neutral, and social media to Alders and Elected Officials. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 12 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft, Meekma and Lemke

EXCUSED: 2 - Kaprelian and Perez

[0711-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Tate, II requesting to establish an ad-hoc committee for Aldermanic Redistricting.

Recommendation of the Committee of the Whole on 09-01-2021:

That the request to establish an ad-hoc committee for Aldermanic Redistricting, including President Tate II as chair, and he will appoint 4 Alder members along with the City Clerk and City Administrator, or their designees, to staff, be Approved.

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alder Tate II, seconded by Alder Horton, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 12 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft, Meekma and Lemke

EXCUSED: 2 - Kaprelian and Perez

Office of the Mayor Report, by Ald. Tate II

[0690-21](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from Mayor Mason, requesting the Common Council adopt a policy requiring that City of Racine employees comply with certain COVID-19 testing and public health protections

Recommendation of Mayor Mason on 8-31-2021: That the policy requiring that City of Racine employees comply with certain COVID-19 testing and public health protections, be adopted.

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alder Tate II, seconded by Alder Taft, that this Communication be Approved as the attached amendment. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 8 - Jones, Tate II, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft, Meekma and Lemke

NOES: 4 - Coe, Santiago Jr, Peterson and Horton

EXCUSED: 2 - Kaprelian and Perez

[0673-21](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral by Mayor Mason) Communication sponsored by Alder Jones, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, submitting bid results for Contract 2021073-City of Racine Transit Facilities Repair Stage 1 C.D.G.B.

Recommendation of Mayor Mason: That Contract 2021073-City of Racine Transit Facilities Repair Stage 1 C.D.G.B., be awarded to Berglund Construction Company, in the amount of \$115,000.00, plus

alternate bid 1 of \$75,000, and alternate bid 2 of \$50,000 for a total contract amount of \$240,000 they being the lowest responsible bidder.

Fiscal Note: Funding is available in the following Org-Object:
\$40,703.68 20046 57200 60000011.Bricks & Mortar RYDE
\$14,296.32 20047 57200 60000014.Bricks & Mortar RYDE
\$185,000.00 20049 57200 60000021.Bricks & Mortar RYDE

A motion was made by Alder Tate II, seconded by Alder Jones, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 12 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft, Meekma and Lemke

EXCUSED: 2 - Kaprelian and Perez

[0720-21](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication sponsored by Mayor Mason appointing the following:

Jessica Diaz to the Sex Offender Residency Board for a term expiring April 30, 2022

Alder Jones in the position as Chair to the Transit Commission for a term expiring April 19, 2022

Lizeth Brito to the Transit Commission for a term expiring May 31, 2024

A motion was made by Alder Tate II, seconded by Alder Coe, that this Communication be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 12 - Coe, Jones, Tate II, Santiago Jr, Peterson, Horton, West, Peete, Rouse, Taft, Meekma and Lemke

EXCUSED: 2 - Kaprelian and Perez

G. Consent Agenda

H. Common Council Announcements

Announcements are limited to recognition of City residents and employees, memorials, and non-political community events. Discussion of matters related to governmental business is prohibited.

I. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 P.M. by Alder Tate II.