

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2020
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT**

Distributed: 4/23/2020

Approved: 4/28/2020

The meeting was called to order by Council President Marjorie Fox at 6:30 PM. The City Clerk then read the following notice:

“Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the City Clerk’s Office in the Open Public Meeting Notice, dated April 8, 2020, which was properly distributed and posted per statutory requirements.”

Note: This meeting was held via video conference by all attendees.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Bowman, Hairston, Little, Naidu, O’Sullivan, Vartan and Council President Fox.

ABSENT: Robert Weck, Chief of Police

Also in attendance were Mayor Radest and staff members Michael Rogers, City Administrator; Paul Cascais, DCS Director; Eric Evers, Fire Chief; Tammie Baldwin, City Treasurer; Rosemary Licatase, City Clerk; Don Nelson; Emergency Management Coordinator; Andrew Bartolotti, Police Captain; Matthew Giacobbe, City Solicitor; Rita McNany, Parking Services Manager; Mark Ozoroski, DCP Director; Nicole Sarna, Deputy City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Eric Evers, Fire Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular and Closed Session Meetings of March 24, 2020 - Approval consideration was deferred to the April 28, 2020 Council meeting.

REPORTS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting.

- Mayor, City Administrator and Council President

Office of Emergency Management - COVID-19 Update - Emergency Management Coordinator, Don Nelson, provided an update of emergency management operations relative to COVID-19.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Clerk advised that three (3) emails were received and attached hereto.

Yon Cho - 27 Beekman Terrace
Jeff Hankinson - 20 Knob Hill Drive
Travis Barr - 101 West End Ave

The City Clerk summarized the three comments, as they all pertained to the residents’ desire to see the transfer station re-open. In response to the comments, DCS Director Paul Cascais provided an update on the Transfer Station, stating that it will re-opened on a modified schedule and that drop offs to the Transfer Station would be by appointment only, in conformance with the Governor’s order for social distancing.

Eileen Kelly - 47 Woodland Avenue. Email attached hereto

In response to Question #1, Council President Fox commented as follows:

1. The Arboretum is a City property and is not a County or State park.
2. The Artborertum is adhering to the social distancing guidelines
3. Bryant Park is a County park and is closed per the Governor’s Executive Order.

In response to Question #2, DCS Director Cascais, advised that enforcement would be deferred until COVID restrictions are lifted.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced, for first reading, the following ordinance(s) as it (they) came up for consideration during the meeting, which was (were) individually read by City Clerk Licatese and unanimously adopted by the vote indicated below and referred to the Law Committee for study and report with a hearing(s) scheduled as indicated under Hearing Date below.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hearing Date</u>
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CAPITAL PROJECTS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

20-3211	AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER XXXV, DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS ORDINANCE, ARTICLE XIII – ZONING REGULATIONS, SECTION 35-13.17, PLANNED RESEARCH OFFICE DEVELOPMENT ZONE <i>(allow research and development of chimeric antigen receptor T-cells therapies as a permitted use in PROD Zone)</i>	5/12/2020
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RESULT:	INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 5/12/2020 7:30 PM
MOVER:	Little	
SECONDER:	Naidu	
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan	

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

FINANCE

- 39284 1. Change Budget Hearing Date - 2020 Municipal, Parking and Sewer Operating Budgets *(Roll Call Vote)*

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Vartan
SECONDER:	Bowman
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan

- 39285 2. Change Budget Hearing Date - 2020 Special Improvement District Budget *(Roll Call Vote)*

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Vartan
SECONDER:	Bowman
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan

- 39286 3. Authorize Emergency Temporary Appropriations - Municipal Operating Budget *(Roll Call Vote)*

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Vartan
SECONDER:	Bowman
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan

- 39287 4. Authorize Emergency Temporary Appropriations - Parking Utility *(Roll Call Vote)*

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Vartan
SECONDER:	Bowman
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan

- 39288 5. Authorize Emergency Temporary Appropriations - Sewer Utility *(Roll Call Vote)*

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Vartan
SECONDER:	Bowman
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan

CAPITAL PROJECTS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- 39289 1. Authorize Change Order #1 & Final - City Hall Air Conditioning Cooling Tower Replacement Project - \$5,285.33
- 39290 2. Authorize Change Order #2 - City Hall Air Conditioning Chiller Replacement Project - \$42,564.81

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & PARKING SERVICES

- 39291 1. Authorize Change Order #14 & Final - Community Center Renovation Project - \$42,029.05 Plus \$0.21 Adjustment
- 39292 2. Authorize Execution of Contract Suspension Agreement with Parking Services Plus

LAW & LABOR

- 39294 1. Authorize Execution of Settlement Agreement - Ernest Bozzi
- 39295 2. Authorize Extension of Sick Leave With Pay - City Clerk's Office

SAFETY & HEALTH

- 39293 Extend 2020 Animal License Renewal Deadline to August 31, 2020

CONSENT AGENDA

Staff reports are attached, as appropriate, when resolution is not self-explanatory. Matters authorizing action, licenses, or granting permission have met all department qualifications.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Little
SECONDER:	Naidu
AYES:	O'Sullivan, Bowman, Fox, Hairston, Little, Naidu, Vartan

CAPITAL PROJECTS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

- 39296 Authorize Bond Reduction - 123-127 Summit Avenue - ZB-18-1941-2

FINANCE

- 39297 1. Authorize Refund of Property Use Escrow - The Summit Area YMCA - Santa's North Pole Party
- 39298 2. Authorize Refund Overpayment of 2018 Taxes
- 39299 3. Authorize Refund Overpayment of 2019 Taxes
- 39300 4. Authorize Refunds - Department of Community Programs
- 39301 5. Authorize Parking Refunds - Summit SmartCard, Prepaid Parking, and Overnight Parking Permits
- 39302 6. Authorizing Payment of Bills - \$1,803,402.06

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting which are not already being addressed by a committee.

In Memoriam - Councilmember Bowman expressed his condolences for the passing of Sam McGhee, retired Executive Director of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties.

COVID-19-related Charitable Efforts - Councilmember Little listed some of the organizations in Summit that are actively involved in providing assistance to the community, in the wake of the pandemic: Sustain Summit Fund, GRACE, Community Food Bank, Other Fellow First, and FLAG. She stated that it is important to reach out to our neighbors right now to help in the midst of the crisis. Council President Fox added that the City's website has a COVID page which lists organizations providing help to the community.

Library Programs and Services Update - Councilmember Hairston provided an update on the various new programs and services that the Summit Free Public Library is now offering through their website. She also advised that they are working on coordinating a call resource for individuals who need assistance in filling out unemployment forms.

ADJOURNMENT REGULAR MEETING – Upon motion of Councilmember Vartan, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalia M. Licatase, City Clerk

Nicole M. Sarna, Deputy City Clerk

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

1. Public Comment - Yon Cho, 27 Beekman Terrace
2. Public Comment- Jeffrey Hankinson, 20 Knob Hill Dr.
3. Public Comment - Travis Barr, 101 West End Ave.
4. Public Comment - Eileen Kelly, 47 Woodland Avenue

Public Comment

04/14/2020 Council Meeting

Licatese, Rosemary

From: Yon Cho <yon.k.cho@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 8:01 AM
To: Licatese, Rosemary
Subject: Transfer Station City Council Meeting Question

When will the transfer station be made available for residents to dump yard clippings?

Yon Cho
27 Beekman Terrace Summit
yon.k.cho@gmail.com
Mobile: 917-860-3204

Public Comment
04/14/2020 Council Meeting

Licatese, Rosemary

From: drjhank@aol.com
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 1:53 PM
To: Licatese, Rosemary
Subject: Reopening the transfer station

from Jeffrey Hankinson
20 Knob Hill Dr.
Summit

My question to the council is:

When do you anticipate reopening the transfer station?

I believe it can be reopened with the **attendant** only allowing 4-6 cars on site at a time.
Spacing and low on site car count can easily mitigate concerns of socializing around the site.

Thank You.

Public Comment
04/14/2020 Council Meeting

Licatese, Rosemary

From: Travis Barr <travisbarr393@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Licatese, Rosemary
Subject: Public Question for Council Meeting April 14, 2020

Travis Barr - 101 West End Ave,

Are there plans to expand the hours or days in which the transfer station is open?

While I understand and appreciate the efforts the city has made in terms of social distancing, I feel that those efforts are misplaced in this regard. Per executive orders issued by Gov Murphy landscaping services were allowed to continue. For those of us who do our own landscaping we haven't had reasonable access to dispose of all our landscaping debris. While the opportunity for curbside pickup is available it is only available for leaves and grass, no sticks. This is unfair for those who choose to reuse bags for environmental purposes (degradable or not), who use trash cans, or who have other non-collectible debris. I also question the morality of forcing DPW associates, who already do a great job collecting our trash, to incur additional exposures to items being left out by residents.

To go to the dump and dispose of sticks leaves and grass there is zero interaction with others. Thanks to the great (and I'm sure expensive) license plate reader we can access the dump without human contact, and the DPW associates can continue to use the excavators from the safety of the cabs.

The act of "opening" the dump to allow 5 cars every 15 minutes is a pitiful attempt to appease. I've seen lines longer than 5 cars on a typical Saturday trying to get past the aforementioned license plate reader. It is also ridiculous that these hours are only during working hours of the week, and as I draft this question I can't book an appointment until next Tuesday, assuming I don't have a work meeting that pops up in the meantime.

In conclusion I strongly urge our elected officials to order the restoration of normal operating hours, while maintaining the restrictions in place regarding disposal of landscaping debris vs use of the book shack etc. A skeleton crew including a person standing in the new guardshack to help the license plate reader is all that should be needed.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Travis Barr,

101 West End Ave

Public Comment
4/14/2020 Council Meeting

Licatese, Rosemary

From: EK <eileenpkelly@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 6:30 PM
To: Licatese, Rosemary
Subject: Questions for Common Council 5.14

Good Evening,

I trust this email finds you well. Kindly see below my questions for this evening's Common Council meeting.

- 1.) Why is Reeves Arboretum have visitor hours on the grounds while Bryant Park is shutdown?
- 2.) Given the potential spread of COVID-19 through reusable bags, is the City reevaluating it's plastic ban ordinance?

Thank you,

Eileen Kelly
47 Woodland Avenue