

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING  
OF THE SCHENECTADY CITY COUNCIL**

**April 11, 2022**

The City Council Meeting was called to order by the City Council President Marion Porterfield at 7:00 p.m. in Room 209, City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Ms. Porterfield asked Reverend Nicolle Harris of Duryee Memorial AME Zion Church to offer the invocation.

Ms. Porterfield then called on Deputy City Clerk Ekram Phanisnaraine to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

The City Clerk called the roll and the following members of the City Council answered to be present:

Present – Council Members: John Mootooveren, Doreen Ditoro, Damonni Farley, Carmel Patrick, John Polimeni, Carl Williams, and Marion Porterfield.

Also Present – Mayor Gary R. McCarthy, City Clerk Samanta R. Mykoo, and Corporation Counsel Andrew B. Koldin, Esq.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Ms. Porterfield asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2022 Council Meeting as submitted by the City Clerk. Ms. Patrick made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Farley seconded the motion.

**COMMUNICATIONS PRESENTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

**Official:**

From the Mayor, a list of appointments dated April 11, 2022.

**General:**

None.

**Petitions:**

None.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (LEGISLATIVE ITEMS):**

Ms. Porterfield invited all who wished to address the Legislative Agenda to come forward or otherwise submit their comments to the City Clerk:

**P. D. Voorhis** – Asked who the proposed planner will be for the Historic Design Guidelines, puzzled by the designations for the Civilian Police Review Board, and is interested in hearing the role call for the City Council decorum legislation.

Seeing no other speakers to come forward, Ms. Porterfield declared the Privilege of the Floor regarding Legislative Items, to be closed.

**INTRODUCTION OF AND ACTION UPON LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Ms. Porterfield made a motion that Council approves the Consent Agenda, the motion was moved by Mr. Mootooveren and seconded by Mr. Williams.

**Consent Agenda**

- Resolution No. 2022-091 .....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-092.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-093.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-094.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-095.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-096.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-097.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-098.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-099.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-100.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-101.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-102.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-103.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-104.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-CS-10.....Adopted Unanimously
- Resolution No. 2022-CS-11.....Adopted Unanimously

**2022-105 A Resolution Establishing Rules of Decorum for City Council Meetings**

The motion to amend the resolution was made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Mootooveren:

6:1:0

Voting AYE: Mr. Mootooveren, Ms. Ditoro, Mr. Farley, Mr. Williams, Ms. Patrick, Ms. Porterfield

Voting Nay: Mr. Polimeni

Abstain: None

A vote on the motion as amended:

5:2:0

Voting AYE: Mr. Mootooveren, Mr. Farley, Mr. Williams, Ms. Patrick, Ms. Porterfield

Voting Nay: Ms. Ditoro, Mr. Polimeni

Abstain: None

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Ms. Porterfield directed all who wished to discuss any items for City Business to come forward or otherwise submit their comments to the City Clerk.

**Judy Rightmyer** – Director of the Capital District Tobacco Free Communities spoke about the direct impact of tobacco use being the leading cause of preventable death and disease, and the leading cause of disease in African Americans.

**Tom Kennedy** – Commended the School District for implementing Community Engagement Officers in schools. This program is very different than many other programs in the State or in the Country. The focus is on the safety of the students; it will be a positive change for the students, faculty, and the community. He also recognized the First Responders, our Fire Department, and our Police Department as being the best.

**P.D. Voorhis** – Stated that she felt endangered because someone spoke about her during a Council Meeting. She said she won't let it bother her because she was able to speak and communicate her message.

**Giselle Figueroa** – Communicated about the walkability of sidewalks in her District 2 neighborhood. Usually, the City does not hold commercial properties accountable for clearing snow in the wintertime or cite them for the garbage. She would like to see her neighborhood be part of the sidewalk pavement project; she has lived there for at least 20 years and has not seen the sidewalks repaired.

**Leonard DeMasi** – Explained that he often picks-up his street and noticed that some of the litter are bottles. He would like to see a \$0.10 bottle return policy in New York. This increase on the redemption fee may help change and improve people's behavior.

Seeing no other speakers come forward, Ms. Porterfield declared the Privilege of the Floor to be closed.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:**

**John Polimeni** – Explained that the Community Engagement Officers in schools is a positive step forward because of the number of troublesome issues in the School District. We want the Police Officers to engage with the public and have conversations, it doesn't always have to be confrontational. He thanked the Superintendent, the Police Chief, and the Mayor, for coordinating this program and the School Board for passing it. He then thanked the SEAT Center for the clean-up in Hillhurst and Fairview parks. He thanked Commissioner LaFond and his staff for getting the mulch in such short notice, which allowed the students to use it after the clean-up. The students were amazing and very hard workers. He then wished everyone a Happy Easter.

**Carmel Patrick** – Congratulated the Mayor for his successful Tee-off at the Golf Course. Then announced that there are additional neighborhood clean-ups after Easter. She also announced that Karen Bradley, Library Director, will be retiring and wished her all the best; thanked her for all the work she's done for the City's Libraries.

**Damoni Farley** – Announced that the Schenectady Greenmarket has implemented a Food Box program which will commence on May 1<sup>st</sup> and run throughout the 2022 outdoor market season. Small shares are \$10 and large shares are \$14. It is important that our community have access to fresh produce. He then commended everyone's effort and contribution on working together to create a safer community and school district. He also acknowledged the strengths and strong skillsets of our young people as we help navigate through these difficult times that we are facing throughout the nation.

**Mayor McCarthy** – Announced that the Golf Course was officially opened on April 8<sup>th</sup> and students from the Schenectady High School Golf team attended. He admitted to being outdriven by a student who may be going to Marist College.

**Marion Porterfield** – Thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight and thanked the Schenectady Heritage Foundation for the \$2,500 grant that was passed. She then offered her condolences to the family of Alberta Madonna. She had served on the Schenectady Municipal

Housing Authority Board for many years and was a true community servant. She offered her condolences to the family of Joan Leonelli, the longtime partner of Dick Naylor who has also been involved in the community for a very long time. She then spoke of the several scheduled upcoming neighborhood clean-up days. Then announced that on April 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a Placemaking event at Proctors; details can be found on the Proctors website. She also announced that this April marks her 10-year anniversary of serving on the Schenectady City Council.

**Adjourned:**

Seeing no further business to come before the City Council, Ms. Porterfield asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved by Mr. Mootoveren and seconded by Mr. Farley. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

**A true record**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samantha R. Mykoo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S" and "M".

**By Samanta R. Mykoo  
Schenectady City Clerk**



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF SCHENECTADY**

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**Gary R. McCarthy**  
Mayor

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**TO:** City Council Members  
**FROM:** Gary R. McCarthy, Mayor *GMcCarthy*  
**SUBJECT:** Appointments  
**DATE:** April 11, 2022

Pursuant to the provisions of Local Law #4-1978, I have made the following appointments:

**Waste**

Matthew Modest – Schenectady, 12308 Labor Loader / \$15.50 hr.	Seasonal 1-31-22
David Williams – Schenectady, 12307 Labor Loader / \$15.50 hr.	Seasonal 2-28-22
Kenneth Willis – Schenectady, 12304 Labor Loader / \$15.50 hr.	Seasonal 2-7-22
Miguel Palma – Schenectady, 12303 MEO-M / \$20.90	Permanent 2-28-22
Mark Gallo – Schenectady, 12308 MEO-M / \$15.50	Seasonal 2-7-22
Anthony Massaro – Schenectady, 12306 MEO-M / \$20.90	Permanent 2-28-22

**Parks**

Garth Osier – Schenectady, NY 12304 Sr. Tree Trimmer / \$26.49	Permanent 4.11.22
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**Sewer**

Eric Weinhold – Schenectady, 12304 Sewer Maintenance/CCTV / \$27.46 hr.	Permanent 1-10-22
Taylor Thackeray – Schenectady, 12304 Sewer Maintenance Worker / \$20.90 hr.	Permanent 1-31-22

**Human Resources**

Kim Teta – Schenectady, 12308  
Part-Time Clerk / \$15.50  
Provisional  
2-23-22

**Police**

Jack Guarneri – Schenectady, 12308  
Police Officer / \$55,076 yr.  
Permanent  
1-16-22

Matthew Gatta – Scotia, 12302  
Police Recruit / \$44, 996 yr.  
Permanent  
1-24-22

Kailin Pigliavento –Schenectady, 12306  
Police Recruit / \$44, 996 yr.  
Permanent  
1-24-22

Seanna Slingerland – Schenectady, 12305  
Police Recruit/\$44,996 yr.  
Permanent  
1-24-22

Daniel Clifford – Schenectady, 12309  
Police Recruit/ \$44,996 yr.  
Permanent  
1-24-22

**Code**

Michele Isabel Eckwerth – Schenectady, 12308  
Code Enforcement Clerk/ \$35,528 yr.  
Provisional  
4-4-22

**Fire**

Douglas Hexel – Niskayuna, 12309  
Lieutenant/ \$81, 381 yr.  
Permanent  
2-21-22

Michael O'Brien – Schenectady, 12306  
Captain/ \$87, 889 yr.  
Permanent  
2-21-22