

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

March 18, 2019

1. Vice-President Logan called the meeting to Order at 8:00pm.
2. Vice-President Logan requested that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The Clerk called the roll – President Brasco, Councillors Darcy, Fowler, Harris, LaCava, D. LeBlanc, R. LeBlanc, Mackin, McLaughlin, McMenimen, Nabulime, Romard, Stanley, Vidal and Vice-President Logan were present.
3. President Brasco moved to approve the minutes of the COW meeting held on March 4, 2019. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the minutes of March 4, 2019 were approved.
4. A resolution was submitted by Councillor D. LeBlanc concerning the feasibility study of the property located at 554 Lexington Street. Councillor D. LeBlanc inquired about the status of receiving the feasibility study as the result of the request to the Mayor. The Clerk of the COW stated that the feasibility study had not been provided to him. Councillor D. LeBlanc stated that she looked forward to receiving the feasibility study. Councillor D. LeBlanc moved to place the matter on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote and the matter was tabled.
5. A resolution was submitted by Vice-President Logan, Councillors D. Leblanc, Harris, McLaughlin and Vidal concerning the “energy code”. Vice-President Logan asked President Brasco to take the Chair so that he could speak on the matter. Vice-President Logan spoke of the benefits of having the City register as an entity so as to have input in the process. Vice-President Logan explained each registered entity receives eight (8) votes. Vice-President also explained that the City could register certain departments as a separate entity thereby receiving eight (8) votes for each. If the City registered three departments as separate entities, it allows the City twenty-four (24) votes. Vice-President Logan moved to amend the original resolution with this updated information. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Vice-President Logan moved to send a request to the Mayor to take the steps necessary to register three (3) or more City departments as separate entities. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Vice-President Logan moved to approve the resolution, as amended. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
6. Vice President Logan resumed the Chair.
7. Councillor Mackin moved to take the matter of the “marijuana hearing at Government Center” (1/14/2019) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Councillor Mackin spoke about her request to hold certain public hearings of the City Council at the Government Center due to an anticipated large turnout from the public. Councillor Mackin informed the Committee that WCAC is able to broadcast live from Government Center and the Elks were agreeable to allowing parking for the public attending the meeting. Councillor Mackin moved to approve the resolution and that the City Clerk, Council President and the Ward Councillor of the matter decide if the meeting would be held at Government Center. On the motion, Councillor D. LeBlanc spoke about the procedure to hold a meeting at Government Center and if the Council Room at City Hall could be used for members of the public. Councillor Mackin stated several reasons why the Government Center would be preferred if a large public attendance was anticipated. Vice-President Logan, Councillors Vidal, McMenimen, Romard, Fowler and LaCava engaged in a brief discussion about the Council Rules and other impacts that could be created by approving the motion. Councillor Mackin moved to amend her motion to approve the resolution as "Ordinances & Rules consider a policy or rule change whereby the clerk in cooperation with the city council determine a method to decide whether to advertise the hearings for 119 School Street rather than the City Council Chambers, to be adopted preliminarily for the 2019 calendar year and continued as a permanent rule change if successful". Councillor Mackin's motion to amend the resolution was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Mackin moved to approve the resolution as amended. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

8. A motion by Councillor D. LeBlanc to adjourn was adopted on a voice vote, and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 8:35pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Committee of the Whole