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Tinti, Elisa

From: Noble, Julie
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2021 4:10 PM
To: Shaut, Andrea; Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Gartenstein, Arielle; Noble, Steve; Timbrouck, Lynsey
Subject: Communication regarding Adoption of Community Choice Aggregation
Attachments: CCA Communication to Council 070821.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find, attached, a Communication to Council regarding the Adoption of Community Choice Aggregation.

A proposed DRAFT Local Law is to follow next week, along with additional supporting documentation.

I would also like to request the time for a brief presentation, to include a few slides, to review CCA and the proposed legislation with the Council, at the appropriate committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Julie

Julie L Noble
Sustainability Coordinator
City of Kingston
467 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
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CITY OF KINGSTON
Office of Environmental Education and Sustainability
climatesmart@kingston-ny.gov

Julie L. Noble, Coordinator



Steven T. Noble, Mayor

July 8, 2021

Honorable Andrea Shaut
President/Alderman-at-large
Kingston Common Council
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY, 12401

Dear President Shaut,

I would like to request placement on the agenda of the Laws and Rules Committee to discuss adoption of a local law enabling Community Choice Aggregation in the City of Kingston.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) allows municipalities to provide bulk electricity rates to residents and businesses by pooling demand, resulting in lower energy costs and more affordable green energy. CCAs ensure that all residents are offered the same stable rates, while Central Hudson continues to deliver reliable power, send bills, maintain lines, and respond to outages. Enrollment in CCA is free and automatic, and residents that are not interested may opt-out at any time without penalty.

Kingston's CCA will do more by partnering with developers to bring distributed solar and low impact hydro generation to *all* residents and businesses at a fixed rate that is guaranteed to be lower than what they would otherwise pay. Every resident and business will also be offered assistance with voluntary investment in distributed energy resources, including rooftop solar PV units, home weatherization, air-source heat pumps, electric vehicles charging stations, and other clean energy applications.

Community Choice Aggregation is proven to increase the ability of individuals and communities to manage their energy usage and bills, and facilitate wider deployment of clean energy across all income levels.

New York passed legislation enabling Community Choice Aggregation in 2016. Since then, over 80 municipalities have adopted local laws enabling CCA, including Saugerties, Marbletown, Red Hook, Poughkeepsie, and Beacon. It is in the City of Kingston's best interest to join our neighbors in enabling Community Choice Aggregation, so that we may provide residents with equitable access to affordable electricity and renewable energy, and show that Kingston is leading the way in the response to climate change.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie L. Noble
Sustainability Coordinator

L+R

Tinti, Elisa

From: Shaut, Andrea
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2021 9:34 AM
To: Morell, Jeffrey
Cc: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Communication for Laws & Rules
Attachments: Resolution for Charter Changes.docx

Good morning Jeffrey,

I would like the Laws & Rules committee to begin discussing the attached document, which includes several changes to the charter. They would eventually become a referendum on the ballot, after passing through a Local Law process. It is my opinion that our current charter as written does not allow our government to have a proper check & balance. The changes proposed would help to eliminate this lack of balance. I look forward to hearing the thoughts of the committee.

Elisa – can you please include this email, as well as the attached, to my communication folder? Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Andrea Shaut

Council President, City of Kingston

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston clerk and corporation counsel serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. In order for there to be a balance of powers, the Kingston Common Council must have its own legislative clerk and independent counsel;

WHEREAS, currently, the Mayor of Kingston may solely appoint members to city boards, committees and commissions;

WHEREAS, the City of Kingston council is not required to obtain mandatory training;

WHEREAS, the following amendments can be made to the City's charter in order to provide elected representatives with the resources and training that they need to better serve the community's interest.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The Charter of the City of Kingston is hereby amended to add a subsection to Article XIII, Section C13-3 providing the following:

1. The Common Council or a majority thereof shall appoint a Clerk of the Common Council. It may employ a legal counsel and pay a reasonable compensation.

SECTION 2: The Charter of the City of Kingston is hereby amended to make a subtraction to a subsection in Article X, Section C10-1 as follows:

1. The Corporation Counsel shall be the primary legal advisor of the Mayor ~~Common Council~~ and of all commissions, departments and other offices of the city. The Corporation Counsel shall conduct, supervise or monitor, as required, the prosecution and defense of all actions or proceedings brought by or against the city or by or against any of its officers in their official capacity and appeal from all such orders, decisions and judgments as he or she deems advisable. The Corporation Counsel shall pay all monies received by him or her on account of the city without delay to the Comptroller.

SECTION 3: The Charter of the City of Kingston is hereby amended to add a subsection to Article XV, Section C14-4 providing as follows:

1. Any commission, board or agency, other than ones referred to in § C15-2 and C15-3 herein above, which exists upon the effective date of this Charter shall remain in effect unless and until changed or modified by subsequent ordinance, local law or other rule or regulations approved by the Common Council. Successors to these other commissions, boards or agencies shall be appointed by

the Mayor **subject to the confirmation of the common council** as their terms expire or as vacancies occur. These other commissions, boards or agencies shall continue to function pursuant to legislation previously enacted which created them so long as not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter.

2. The Common Council must either confirm or reject any such appointment within 45 days of the Mayor's filing of a written notice of appointment with the City Clerk. In the event the Common Council fails to timely approve or disapprove the appointment, the appointment shall be deemed confirmed. In the event the Common Council timely rejects the appointment, the Mayor shall make a new appointment for such position, which shall also be subject to confirmation pursuant to the above procedure. No such appointee shall hold office beyond the term of the Mayor by whom the appointment was made, except as otherwise provided by state law or local law. Any such appointee may be removed for cause by the Mayor, following notice of the grounds for removal and an opportunity to be heard. No City employee shall be appointed to serve on a board, commission or authority which has a fixed term of office, unless the enabling legislation for such board, commission or authority so authorizes.

SECTION 4: The Charter of the City of Kingston is hereby amended to add a subsection to Article XIII, providing as follows:

1. **Mandatory Council Member Training:** Each council member shall be required to participate in education and training related to his or her office. Each council member shall complete at least 8 hours of education and training by June 30th annually. The rules and procedures regarding approved sources for such mandatory training shall be set forth in the council rulebook.

SECTION 5: That upon passage of this Local Law and approval thereof by the Mayor, a ballot proposal shall be placed on the ballot of the 2021 General Election to be held on November x 2021 to be voted on by the electors of the City of Kingston for the approval or disapproval of this Charter Amendment.

SECTION 6: That this local law shall take effect upon compliance with all applicable provisions of New York State Municipal Home Rule Law, following the approval of the electors of the City of Kingston at the 2021 General Election as provided herein.

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