

Tinti, Elisa

From: Joseph Difalco <difalcobrandy@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2021 9:18 AM
To: Tinti, Elisa; Shaut, Andrea
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Written Comments for December 7 Council Meeting

Greetings...

Please find my written comments I wish to have part of the proceedings for tonight's Common Council meeting, Tuesday, December 7.

Thank you for your courtesies.

Ellen DiFalco

TO: Elisa Tinti, City Clerk
FROM: Ellen DiFalco
DATE: December 7, 2021
RE: Public Comment for December 7 Common Council Meeting

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my comments for this evening's council meeting and to be part of the proceedings.

As one of the many individuals who follow the agenda items for consideration at committee meetings and tonight's council meeting, it is cumbersome to try to follow resolutions that are to be voted on when the legislation list is inaccurate and incomplete.

For example:

Resolution No. 225 refers to an appropriation of \$2,000 for two bicycles; that is misleading and not correct. The \$2,000 is an in-kind donation for a plaque and four (4) bikes.

Resolution No. 228, 229, 230,231 titles are incomplete. What account, what amount and what department?

Resolution. No. 232 refers to adopting the 2022 fee schedule which under normal circumstances, is offered by the Finance or Laws & Rules Committee.

Resolution No. 234 refers to an appropriation of \$14,500 for purchase of phones and laptops for aldermen. For those that missed the conversations at the budget wrap-up meeting, WHY this is necessary? The public should know what the expense is for.

Resolution No. 235 title doesn't make sense.

Resolution No. 238 is for a bond ordinance. How much?

Resolution No. 247 another bond ordinance for what and how much?

These are a few of the titles which lack specific dollar amounts and explanations. I should not have to remind you that the new rules for Open Meetings pertain to making documents available for the public to view in advance of meetings. For the sake of transparency and open government, at least the documents should be prepared correctly.

Thank you.

Ellen DiFalco
66 Glen Street
Kingston NY

Copy: Making Documents Available Prior to Open Meetings (S.1150-A/A.1228-A)

This legislation makes documents to be discussed at open meetings available to the public at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. The Open Meetings Law is intended to empower the public through the accessibility of meetings of public bodies. The law requires them to make available to the public relevant documents, such as any proposed rule, regulation, or resolution. However, the current law only requires documents to be made available prior to meetings "as determined by the agency or department." This standard has resulted in some government bodies failing to make materials available in advance of meetings, reducing transparency. This legislation requires any proposed resolution, law, rule, regulation, policy, or amendment to be made available upon request and to be posted to the body's website at least 24 hours in advance of their discussion at an open meeting, giving the public access to these important documents in advance.

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