

Hudson Common Council Legal Committee  
Minutes of meeting - January 27, 2016 at 6:15 PM - City Hall

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Present: Michael O'Hara - Chair  
Council President DeStefano  
Alderman Garriga  
Alderman Moore  
Counsel: Ken Dow

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM.

The first order of business was the development and agreement on a plan to review the documents associated with the proposed procedures for the City's fund balance and reserves. Treasurer Campbell has reported in previous meetings on the problems caused by a lack of a written document describing what the treasurer's actions should be when confronted with an unexpected change in the status of these funds. Chairman O'Hara proposed and the other members agreed to review and mark up documents to be distributed by Treasurer Campbell with the intention of passing the edited single document to Counsel at the next meeting for review.

The second order of business was a question remaining from the previous meeting (November 2015) on how to convey the finished local law regarding the "Lodging Tax" to our NY Assembly and Senate representatives for introduction approval in Albany. Counsel Dow will investigate and make the appropriate transfer happen (if it has not been done already).

The third order of business was another question remaining from the previous meeting, on how best to write a law creating a "vacancy tax". This was discussed in previous meetings and the legal committee will take on the task of collecting examples from other communities and compiling a suggested legislative proposal. Counsel Dow was instructed to review the text of the law in the other NYS communities which have a regulation on vacant rental properties and will report to the committee at the next meeting with suggestions on writing the document.

The fourth order of business was the introduction of a resolution by Alderman Garriga calling for the NYS legislature to enact legislation to raise the age of criminal responsibility from the current 16 years of age to 18. After a presentation by Alderman Garriga on the resolution, a motion was made by Alderman Garriga and seconded by Alderman Moore to pass this resolution as written to the Council with our approval. The motion was carried unanimously.

There being no other business before the Committee, on proper motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael O'Hara, Chair