The following Resolutions were approved at the **Informal Meeting** held on **October 19, 2026.**

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Sarowar**, the following **AMENDED** resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 1 October 27, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A 2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT TO COVER ANTICIPATED LEGAL FEES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2026

WHEREAS, the City budgeted $80,000 for attorney's fees in 2026, in comparison to actual 2025 legal fees totaling $113,094.05; and

WHEREAS, since the beginning of the year, the City has been heavily involved in Planning Board-related litigation, tax certioraris, and union contract negotiations; and WHEREAS, the $80,000 originally budgeted for 2026 plus the $40,000 budget amendment approved by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and Common Council in July has been depleted; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's office believes the estimated billings for June through December 2026 of $15,000 from Hinman Straub (labor attorney) $70,000 from Tabner Ryan & Keniry, LLP (Planning Board and tax certiorari attorneys); $7,500 from Rodenhausen Chale & Polidoro LLP (Zoning Board of Appeals Counsel), and $11,000 from Rodenhausen Chale & Polidoro LLP (Historic Preservation Commission Counsel) continue to be accurate.

WHEREAS, while these are estimated figures, it is understood that budget versus actuals will need to be revisited in the fall/early winter to determine if any additional 2026 budget amendments are required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Treasurer is authorized and directed to make the following 2026 budget amendment:

$40,000	TO: A.1420.0460	Attorney Fees
	FROM: A.9060.0800	*Use of Fund Balance*

Approved by Board of Estimate & Apportionment.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Sarowar, Foster, Belton, Volo, and Merante.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilmember Cousin.

Bills.

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Purnhagen**, the following bills were audited and ordered paid at the **Informal Meeting** held on **October 19, 2026,** by the following vote:

Fed Ex	34.93	General Code	1,595.00
Main-Care Energy	110.34	Repeat Business Systems	208.43
Nicholas Fox, CEO	477.35	Hudson Register Star	224.08
JV Computers	6,974.00	Mid Hudson Cablevision	75.00
Chatham Printing	150.00	RingCentral Inc	393.04
Alexandra Semchenko (CAC)	35.12	Ricoh USA Inc	4.06
Azavar Technologies	3,248.75	Repeat Business Systems	118.17
Xerox Financial Svcs	115.74	James Delaney Jr (DCO)	600.00
Hinman Straub	6,521.00	Tabner Ryan Keniry LLP	11,787.50
Tabner Ryan Keniry LLP	1,575.00	Tabner Ryan Keniry LLP	1,620.00
LaBella Associates	10,000.00	Margaret Morris	89.99
Main-Care Energy	40.85		
Event Award-2026			
A.Keith/Hudson Family Reunion	1,000.00	Hudson Sloop Club	3,000.00

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Sarowar, Foster, Belton, Volo, and Merante.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilmember Cousin.

October 27, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Common Council was held in-person in the Common Council Chambers, City Hall, 520 Warren Street as well as remotely via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM with President Morris presiding.

Upon roll call there were present: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, and Merante.

Absent: Councilmember Cousin.

Councilmember Cousin arrived via on TEAMS after roll call. She stated she was appearing virtually due to being sick.

The clerk announced there was a quorum present for the meeting as required by Section C12-13 of the City Charter.

On motion of **Councilmember Sarowar**, seconded by **Councilmember Volo**, the Council went into executive session to discuss the Memorandum of Agreement with Council 82, for the Hudson Police Department.

On motion of **Councilmember Sarowar**, seconded by **Councilmember Purnhagen**, the Council exited the executive session **President Morris** announced that no decisions were made while in executive session.

President Morris stated that Proposed Resolution No. 6 would Authorize Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement with Council 82 for the Hudson Police Department.

On motion of **Councilmember Sarowar**, seconded by **Councilmember Haddad**, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 6 October 27, 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH COUNCIL 82

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with Council 82, AFSCME, Local 3979, AFL-CIO, Hudson Police Department (the "Union") for a term of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026 ("Existing CBA"); and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson has negotiated a fully executed Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") with the Union dated as of September 28, 2026, to modify the terms of the Existing CBA to be effective as of January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the MOA is on file with the Clerk's Office of the City of Hudson and is annexed to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, among other provisions, the MOA provides for a four (4) year contract term of January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2030; and

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby approves the necessary funding for the implementation of the provisions of the MOA and further ratifies the MOA; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Hudson is hereby authorized to sign the new Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Hudson and Council 82, AFSCME, Local 3979, AFL-CIO, Hudson Police Department for the period of January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2030, and to take all necessary steps to implement the terms of same.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ("MOA")

By and Between

City of Hudson

And

Council 82, AFSCME, Local 3979 Hudson Police Department

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson (the "City") and Council 82, AFSCME, Local 3979 Hudson Police Department (the "Union") are parties to a Collective Bargaining Agreement for the term January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026 ("CBA"). Subject to ratification by the Union and approval by the City, the parties hereby agree to continue and modify the CBA as follows:

1. Amend Article 2, section 4 to allow the patrol division to accrue comp time up to a maximum of 72 hours, that is **replenishable.** Officers can carry over up to 36 hours into the next year.

2. Comp time can only be used in increments of 6- or 12-hour blocks, unless otherwise authorized solely by the Chief of Police, in their sole discretion, not subject to review. Additionally, comp time will not be authorized if it causes prescheduled overtime, specifically, if there are already two approved absences for the scheduled platoon.

3. Amend Article 2, section 5 - Longevity: Effective 1/1/2029 the city agrees to increase each bracket of the longevity scale by $200.

Years of Service (Police Officer)	Amount (effective 1/1/2029)
Five to Nine (5-9) Years of Service	$1,200.00
Ten to Fourteen (10-14) Years of Service	$2,700.00
Fifteen to Sixteen (15-16) Years of Service	$3,700.00
Seventeen to Nineteen (17-19) Years of Service	$4,700.00
Twenty (20) + Years of Service	$6,200.00

Years of Service (DISPATCHERS)	Amount (effective 1/1/2029)
Five to Nine (5-9) Years of Service	$1,200.00
Ten to Fourteen (10-14) Years of Service	$2,200.00
Fifteen to Nineteen (15-19) Years of Service	$3,200.00
Twenty (20) + Years of Service	$4,700.00

4. Amend Article 4, section 1 to all the member to select their own platoons, however, in the event that there is imbalance among seniority, experience and bike patrol, the Chief or their designee can re-assign on notice. To ensure that there is balance among platoons, each platoon will be identified

on the selection sheet, that will identify a spot to be filled, and selection will occur according to seniority, and once that spot is filled, an officer cannot put their name on the platoon until all positions are filled.

- SUPERVISOR
- BIKE PATROL
- OFFICER WITH MORE THAN 5 YEARS OF SERVICE
- OFFICE WITH LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SERVICE
- COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST

In the absence of sufficient patrol officers with more than 5 years of service, the next most senior officer would fill the open platoon vacancy.

5. Amend Article 6, section 1 to provide communication specialist will be provided accruals of vacation at the same rate as police officers.

Years of Service	Vacation Allowance
After one (1) year	Two Weeks (80 hours)
After *two (2)* years	Three weeks (120 hours)
After *five (5)* years	Four weeks (160 hours)
After *ten (10)* years	Five weeks (200 hours)

6. Amend Article 6, section 2 to increase personal paid leave for any full-time **12-hour employee** to 48 hours. The new hires will earn up to the max under the proposal up to 48 hours as suggested.

7. Amend Article 10 to establish the City will agree to a singular reopener during the first 3 years of the life of the current contract to negotiate a communication specialist retirement, if the legislation becomes law. During the last year of the contract, the union can raise it as a proposal during negotiations for the new contract. Further, this particular reopener shall sunset on December 31, 2029, and not subject to Triborough.

8. Amend Article 13, section 1 to state the City is willing to increase the uniform allowance as follows:
   - New hires increased from $1,500 to $2,000
   - Com specialists increased from $300 to $400.

9. Amend Article 9 to continue offering NYSHIP insurance coverage (in/out without limitation) for all current bargaining unit members. New members hired on or after 1/1/2027 will not have the option of NYSHIP. The "new" plan which has been identified as MVP will be codified in the CBA as well as update Section A to accurately reflect the employee insurance contributions based upon their date of hire.

10. Article 9, section 1 shall be amended to set insurance opt-out at a fixed $14,500 for all bargaining unit members hired on or before December 31, 2026 and these members will have the option to opt into the buyout at the $14,500 rate without limitation. Bargaining unit members hired on or after 1/1/2027 will have a health insurance opt-out rate set at $5000.

11. Amend Article 2, section 3 – Salary Schedules. Salary schedules will be increased in the following amounts:

    Effective 1/1/2027, each step of the salary schedule will be increased by $2.25 per hour.

    Effective 1/1/2028, each step of the salary schedule will be increased by 3.75%.

    Effective 1/1/2029, each step of the salary schedule will be increased by 3.5%.

    Effective 1/1/2030, each step of the salary schedule will be increased by 3.25%.

    The applicable salary schedule is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

12. The parties agree to work together to update the Collective Bargaining Agreement to accurately reflect the revisions herein as well as provide any necessary clarifying language.

"IT IS AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT ANY PROVISIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT REQUIRING LEGISLATIVE ACTION BY THE CITY OF HUDSON COMMON COUNCIL TO PERMIT ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY PROVIDING THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS THEREFORE, SHALL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL SUCH APPROVAL HAS BEEN GIVEN."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Memorandum of Agreement is hereby executed as of the date below.

CITY OF HUDSON

By: 9/28/26
Joseph Ferris, Mayor

By:
Margaret Morris, Common Council President

By: 9/28/26
Mishanda Franklin, Chief of Police

By: Capt. 30 9-28-26
Captain David Miller

By: 9/27/2026
Tiffany Martin

COUNCIL 82, AFSCME, LOCAL 3979 HUDSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

By:
Mike Suprenant

By:
Sergeant David Card

By: Det. #74
Detective Jonathan Merante

By: Det. #51
Detective Christopher Duntz

By: LT
Lieutenant Jeff Keyser

By: M. R
Mary Kate Rodrigues

Exhibit A

Police Officers		Officers Hired After 2019		
Year	2027	2028	2029	2030
	$2.25/hr	3.75%	3.50%	3.25%
First Year	$69,868.24	$72,488.30	$75,025.39	$77,463.71
per hour	$33.59	$34.85	$36.07	$37.24
Second Year	$73,702.40	$76,466.24	$79,142.56	$81,714.69
per hour	$35.43	$36.76	$38.05	$39.29
Third Year	$78,154.41	$81,085.20	$83,923.18	$86,650.69
per hour	$37.57	$38.98	$40.35	$41.66
Fourth Year +	$83,257.66	$86,379.82	$89,403.12	$92,308.72
per hour	$40.03	$41.53	$42.98	$44.38
Detectives (6.4%)*	$88,586.15	$91,908.13	$95,124.92	$98,216.48
per hour	$42.59	$44.19	$45.73	$47.22
Sergeants (12.8%)	$93,914.64	$97,436.44	$100,846.71	$104,124.23
per hour	$45.15	$46.84	$48.48	$50.06
Det. Sergeants (15.6%)	$96,412.37	$100,027.83	$103,528.81	$106,893.49
per hour	$46.35	$48.09	$49.77	$51.39
Lieutenants (25%)	$104,072.08	$107,974.78	$111,753.90	$115,385.90
per hour	$50.03	$51.91	$53.73	$55.47

Police Officers		Officers Hired BEFORE 2019		
Year	2027	2028	2029	2030
	2.25	1.0375	1.035	1.0325
First Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Second Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Third Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fourth Year +	$79,241.91	$82,213.48	$85,090.95	$87,856.41
per hour	$38.10	$39.53	$40.91	$42.24
Detectives (6.4%)*	$84,313.39	$87,475.14	$90,536.77	$93,479.22
per hour	$40.54	$42.06	$43.53	$44.94
Sergeants (12.8%)	$89,384.87	$92,736.81	$95,982.60	$99,102.03
per hour	$42.97	$44.59	$46.15	$47.65
Det. Sergeants (15.6%)	$91,762.13	$95,203.21	$98,535.32	$101,737.72
per hour	$44.12	$45.77	$47.37	$48.91
Lieutenants (25%)	$99,052.39	$102,766.85	$106,363.69	$109,820.51
per hour	$47.62	$49.41	$51.14	$52.80

			Communication Specialist	
Year	2027	2028	2029	2030
	$2.25/hr	3.75%	3.50%	3.25%
First Year	$53,614.01	$55,624.54	$57,571.39	$59,442.46
per hour	$25.78	$26.74	$27.68	$28.58
Second Year	$56,876.28	$59,009.14	$61,074.46	$63,059.38
per hour	$27.34	$28.37	$29.36	$30.32
Third Year	$60,138.55	$62,393.75	$64,577.53	$66,676.30
per hour	$28.91	$30.00	$31.05	$32.06
Fourth Year	$63,400.82	$65,778.35	$68,080.59	$70,293.21
per hour	$30.48	$31.62	$32.73	$33.79
Fifth Year	$66,663.08	$69,162.95	$71,583.65	$73,910.12
per hour	$32.05	$33.25	$34.42	$35.53
Sixth Year	$69,925.35	$72,547.55	$75,086.71	$77,527.03
per hour	$33.62	$34.88	$36.10	$37.27

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Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin, and Merante.

Nays: None.

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Belton**, the minutes of the September 29th Regular Meeting were ordered received and placed on file. Carried.

Committee/Department Reports.

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Sarowar**, the following committee reports were ordered received and placed on file. Carried.

Finance Committee

September 29, 2026

In attendance: Councilmember Rich Volo, Chairman; Council President Margaret Morris; Councilmembers Lola Roberts and Mohammed Rony; City Treasurer Heather Campbell

Mr. Volo called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m. at City Hall and remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Campbell reported that plumbing permits were at 18 percent of budget through August and building permits were at 39 percent of budget, for a weighted average of 37 percent. She was not sure why there had been such a drop-off from year-to-year for building permits.

Revenues from on- and off-street parking were at 75 percent of budget, which were tracking accurately. Parking and other permits were at 70 percent of budgets, while parking tickets were a little lower at 59 percent, but still close to target.

Sales tax stood at $932,897, or 37 percent of budget. At this point in time from 2022 to 2025 the city had more than $1 million in sales tax revenues. She also checked how much the first two quarters equaled in terms of the overall total and found that revenues were consistently between $44,800 and $45,900. She said the current 37 percent was not ideal. "If the 45 percent remains consistent, we would be coming in at more like $2.1 million as opposed to the budget of $2.5 million. It's a projection, but it's just something I think we should be keeping an eye on."

On a positive note, she said the city received $508,000 in temporary municipal assistance from the state, compared to $139,000 last year. It was not included in the budget as it would likely not be permanent. "It's their way of recognizing the fact that municipalities need help without making a long-term commitment basically. Who knows how long it's going to last. Who knows what the amounts will be. We get no visibility on that whatsoever. I have no idea where this amount came from." Ms. Roberts asked what the money could be used for. Ms. Campbell said it could be used for anything.

Lodging tax through August was $409,922, or 71 percent of budget. On the flip side, adult use cannabis revenues "slowed before it even really started," she said, at $58,097 or 36 percent of budget with two of four payments for the year received. "I know that there's a little more competition out there than there used to be. There's Greenport and I think Claverack's planning on opening one, so we'll keep an eye on that." Asked what projections were based on, she said the first year the Board of Estimate and Apportionment (BEA) looked at other

municipalities. This year's budgeted amount was based on what was received in the first three quarters of the prior year. She said the city had averaged $40,000 a quarter but the last quarterly payment was only $18,000. She said it was difficult to get clarity and information from the state Office of Cannabis Management. "It could be just as simple as market saturation…"

The second of two mortgage tax payments was expected to arrive next month. "Right now, we're at 47 percent of budget, which is roughly what we would expect to see."

The 2025 audited financial statements were completed hours before the meeting and were uploaded to the federal audit portal. She said revenues totaled $15,586,376 million and expenditures were $15,512,039 million. Financing uses were $229,647 net, the majority of which was an interfund transfer to the cemetery fund. "Once again, we ended up with a negative performance in terms of fiscal 2025, a net loss of about $155,000."

Regarding the fund balance, the non-spendable portion was $148,786, restricted of $698,861 and assigned designated for next year's expenditures—what was used to balance the 2026 budget—of $385,629. The other portion of the fund balance was $1,032,324. "Those are the encumbrances… basically commitments and expenditures we had in '24 that got moved into the '25 budget." The unassigned portion of the fund balance was $2,197,737. The net total fund balance was $4,463,337 for 2025. She believed that the unassigned fund balance was probably $2.4 million in 2024 "and we lost $155,000." Her report showed a significant difference in the unassigned fund balance because the state required that any interfund loan in place for more than a year be classified as non-spendable.

"As I think we all know, the fund balance is not cash. Fund balance is just the net of assets. You could have a huge fund balance, and it could all be accounts receivable and you could have no money in the bank. In this case we are actually talking about cash. It's literal cash that gets moved out of the general fund and moved into a different bank account for primarily the capital projects and we wait to get that back." Ms. Campbell said the sidewalk improvement district (SID) was one of those. At the end of 2025, the city had a total of $2.068 million in interfund loans and only $787,000 of that was actually non-spendable. She said that number would probably increase in 2026 because there were other loans that were outstanding that were not for a year then but were outstanding now. "If you take the unassigned for the audit of the $2.197 million and you adjust for the $787,000, in New York State's opinion we have an unassigned fund balance of $1.44 million." She said if she ran a report, the city's expenses would look like $15.7 million. At the minimum of two months recommended, "that would put us at an unassigned fund balance of $2.6 million. She said the $1.4 million would be compared to the $2.6 million. Asked whether that meant the state or rating agencies, she said it would likely be both. The rating agencies would probably go by the financial statements not the statements from the Office of the State Comptroller. "In terms of our fiscal stress, that's exactly what I'm talking about. We just got our fiscal stress score and we're still find, but the next time around we may not because we'll probably get dinged on the level…"

Mr. Volo said it would be "a year from now before we really know." He asked if unpaid property taxes were included in the fund balance or if that was taken into account. Ms. Campbell said unpaid taxes were a receivable, an asset. She said the idea that revenue would increase if more back taxes were collected was untrue. "What you do is you reduce your asset of receivable and you increase the asset cash, so it's included in the fund balance to the extent that they are part of the asset side of the balance sheet." She was asked if it was still not receivable, where it was accounted for. Ms. Campbell said it was a decrease of the asset balance. "That $1.4 million isn't taxes receivable. You could be asset rich but not have any cash in the bank because all these

people owe you money basically… and the collection doesn't impact that calculation at all. When people pay their back taxes, you're just reducing the asset that's receivable, but you're increasing the asset that is cash…"

Foreclosure

In other matters, Ms. Campbell reported that the list and petition for foreclosure proceedings had been filed with the city clerk and were available at her office. Notices were issued to the delinquent property owners. "We're probably about three months away at this point from foreclosure." The list was updated last week and posted on the city website. Only 15 remained on the list for about $1.4 million owed, about $950,000 of which was principal and $480,000 in interest. The top five properties accounted for 70 to 75 percent of the total. "There's just a couple really big ones still out there, but several came off, including the church, which I mentioned last time, and a couple other big ones came off. Also, a few more people entered into installment plans.

98 Paddock Place

A bid package for the sale of 98 Paddock Place was prepared by corporation counsel with a bid due date of October 30. "We will have the revenue to make up those back taxes, which are about $220,000 and change." Ms. Campbell added that the city was not allowed to keep the excess so it would be an interesting experience to figure out how to assign the expenses.

Operational

Work continued on the retirement gold standard. Also, county Treasurer P.J. Keeler informed her that Airbnb confirmed to him that they were paying back guests who were incorrectly charged the city tax.

A meeting was scheduled for next week on a integrated online payment system. She hoped that it could be done by the end of the year.

The city and Peter Frank with his new city parks team were "pretty solid" on the project cost for Oakdale Park and what they will need in terms of short- and long-terms cash flow. "Short-term, I think we figured out a way with maybe roughly a quarter of a million dollars interfund loan, which we couldn't have swung six months ago but we are in better shape now cash wise, at least for now." There will also be a bond anticipation note because the project is supposed to be fielded entirely with grants, plus contributions, so there should not be anything long-term to bond.

2027 Budget

The BEA had begun the 2027 budget process. All of the departmental budget requests were posted on the treasurer's page of the city website. Members discussed the snow removal budget, which was depleted early last season.

Public Comment

Committee members were asked if they received any information on dock operations and programming. The next management structure seemed to be heavily focused on the programming aspect more than dock operations.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Services Committee

October 1, 2026

In attendance: Councilmember Dominic Merante, Chairman; Councilmembers Jennifer Belton and Lola Roberts; Commissioner of Senior Services Brittany Gillis; Youth Department Director Calvin Lewis
Absent: Councilmember Gary Purnhagen

Mr. Merante called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall and electronically via Microsoft Teams. It was also broadcast on YouTube at Hudson City Zoom Meetings.

Youth Department

Mr. Lewis said the department was budgeted for seven full-time positions but had only five on payroll—a cleaner, secretary, program coordinator, recreation attendant and himself—and nine part-time staff. He was trying to "back fill" the vacancies. Three staff are assigned to kindergarten through grade two at the Hudson Area Association Library then three each for third through eighth grade and teen programming, all at the Youth Center. Programming for kindergarten to grade two and grades three to eight run from 3 to 5:30 p.m. and teen programming is 6 to 9 p.m.

Mr. Merante asked if the part-time staff would complement the two new recreation attendants Mr. Lewis said that was the case. One full-time recreation attendant is stationed at the Youth Center, where the bulk of programming is offered. He said an average of 30 youths attended. A full-time recreation attendant and three part-timers support that program.

"With conversations with the mayor's office, I've been seeking a back fill," Mr. Lewis said. "Those conversations are continuing."

Mr. Merante asked what happened to the nutrition coordinator. Mr. Lewis said there wasn't one because the department transitioned to a vendor contract with Columbia Kitchen. The department now has a vendor contract with the Hudson Sandwich Shop, This and That food truck and Mama Jean's food truck. Mr. Lewis said the vendor contract streamlined day-to-day programming because "it's one less person, in this sense it would have to be direct care, that would be responsible for the food. Having this vendor offsets that responsibility and prioritizes it to this vendor and we get reimbursed."

Mr. Lewis said he was being realistic considering the city's budget situation and would be content if one of the positions was filled. The position would be supervisory. At present he is tasked with supervision at both sites. While all in a day's work, he said it would be more helpful to offset that.

Mr. Merante asked if the person would supervisor staff or youths. Mr. Lewis said they would supervisor staff. Mr. Merante said the vacant positions were part of the Communications Workers of America so if they took on a supervisory role, they would not be part of the union. Mr. Lewis said that was correct and thought it could be clarified in the job description. He said that person would likely work from 1:30 to 9 p.m. and oversee the afterschool and teen programs.

Mr. Lewis reported that he submitted a proposed $770,538 budget for 2027 to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment (BEA). It was up $54,669 from this year's budget, or 7.64 percent, which he said was very minimal. Much of the increase was due to contractual salary

increases via the union, plus an added expense for the myrec platform, the software used to register youths for leagues and afterschool programming, tracking and communications. "Overall, it was pretty basic in regard to our requests, very similar to last year's budget."

Code Enforcement Director Nick Fox conducted a fire safety and maintenance inspection at the Youth Center on August 17 and found the following deficiencies:

• Front entrance door (South Third Street): Chipping and peeling paint was observed that could contain lead. Test for lead and complete appropriate repair and remediation.

• Fire department access: Install an approved Knox Bos at or near the main entrance to provide emergency access for the Fire Department.

• Men's restroom door: Adjust or repair the door closer. The door closes/slams with excessive force, presenting a potential injury hazard.

• Upstairs gym – exit signs/emergency lighting: Replace two non-functioning/deficient exist signs and associated emergency lighting and verify proper operation.

• Upstairs gym – incorrect exit sign: Remove the exist sign located on the front left side of the gym as the location does not lead to a safe exist from the building. Replace the sign with appropriate emergency lighting.

• Upstairs gym – exit identification: Install an approved illuminated exit sign on the right side of the gym identifying the path to the existing safe exit from the building.

• Stairway – damaged tin paneling: Repair and property secure the damaged tin paneling within the stairway. The damaged/sharp material presents a potential injury hazard.

• Pantry – timer/electrical box: Secure and lock the timer/electrical box so wiring and electrical components cannot be accessed or contacted by unauthorized persons.

• Pantry – exposed electrical box: Exposed wiring/electrical components were observed near the pantry door. Install an approved blank cover plate and ensure the electrical box is properly enclosed.

• Kitchen ceiling – exposed wiring: Properly enclosed the exposed wiring/electrical box in the kitchen ceiling. Install an approved blank cover plate, light fixture or other approved enclosure so no wiring or electrical components remain exposed.

Mr. Lewis said the exposed wires were not in areas frequented by youths. "Last week I submitted a budget transfer to the BEA to start to address some of the building maintenance. The first item that we are going to tackle is the entrance on the Third Street side… then from there tackle some of the electrical and other issues. These are things that we could do prior to program hours or scheduling them during the holiday breaks." Mr. Merante asked him to submit a corrective action plan next month.

Mr. Lewis said it was the first time the building had been inspected since he started working for the department and as a result, "I think we're off to a better start." Mr. Merante said he was glad the inspection was done because now Mr. Lewis was aware of the issues and could correct them. Mr. Lewis said most of the issues could be easily fixed. Mr. Fox offered to help identify contractors and vendors to do the work at a decent rate.

Discussion followed on the fire alarm system and routine fire drills with staff and youths.

Mr. Lewis outlined programming, which included cooking with the Sylvia Center, art, Bindlestiff Family Cirkus and Kuumba with Operation Unite. Got Game Sports, a basketball non-profit, will be introduced. The youngest group comes to the Youth Center every Friday

Sgt. Edelman visited the Youth Center with therapy dog Wrigs. Mr. Lewis said it was a way to bridge law enforcement with youth. "Studies show that there are therapeutic benefits

from our canine friends. The kids had a ball. I think Wrigs did too. They couldn't keep their hands off of him."

Community engagement took place at a meet the teacher night at the M.C. Smith School. Staff met building administrators, teachers, former teachers and students. Prizes and giveaways were offered and staff promoted the upcoming youth basketball program. The Youth Center also had a table at the Greater Hudson Promise Neighborhood's 12th annual block party. Staff connected with families and registered participants for 2026-2027 afterschool programs.

The Oakdale community cookout, a fundraiser for Friends of Hudson Youth, was scheduled for October 11 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the beach, with a rain date of October 12. There is a sliding scale for tickets, from zero to $30.

The soccer program kicked off September 12 and will continue until October 31. Sixty were signed up for pre-kindergarten to grade two, 23 in grades three and four and 22 in grades five and six. "I think the numbers have continued to trend up even though we're halfway done. It's almost like people are still discovering the league, but we try to accommodate as best we can." The youngest group have skills and drills on Saturday at 9 a.m., while the older youths have one night of practice and games on Saturdays at the high school. Some of the sixth graders were eligible to play modified soccer in school. "That's how we envision ourselves, as a feeder program to some of those more competitive stages of play."

Signups were under way for the youth basketball league, which typically has higher participation than soccer. Pre-kindergarten through grade two will do just skills and drills while grades three to six will have game play.

Another test was done of the water at Oakdale and some toxic algae remained. Signage was up, mainly to keep pets out of the water since the lake was closed to swimming. Mr. Lewis said the algae would start to dissipate with colder temperatures.

Senior Citizens

Ms. Gillis said she went to a few events and spoke at one in an effort to network and find a way to collect contact information for senior citizens in the community. She realized that more work had to be done before collecting a person's name and telephone number. Information was safely collected from those who attended Senior Center programs. "I'm out networking and I'm just connecting with people that are interested and hoping that we have programs that they would want to come to, even just getting their information."

She said she had submitted a 2027 budget to the BEA, but she planned some addendums based on information gleaned from networking. She said the department would move to city-owned laptops since the one used now was at least 10 years old. "We're updating laptops and computers and we're coming up with a process that makes sense."

She attended senior day at Providence Hall, met with representatives of the county Office for the Aging and Health Department, and spoke with a few local businessowners who want to offer senior discounts, "so when I'm ready to collaborate with them it's going to happen kind of quickly because we've already been talking."

Information regarding government phones was offered at senior day. "A lot of seniors had no phone. I don't know how they communicate with their families. There were at least three residents trying to lock in the phone or fix their phone, so when I say that Hudson seniors are very personable it's because that's all they have to communicate. They're kind of boxed in with the lack of communication. I really want to do the footwork to reach the people that aren't being

reached. I want to spend more time to see what everyone is going through and what they need and then I'll branch out to cast a wider net."

Ms. Gillis said many seniors struggle with getting their identification documents. Without ID, they can't get a phone. "There's just a lot of work to do to get to this contact list and I'm going to start with those buildings that house a lot of seniors because they can come into the senior center. They can make an appointment or something and come in and have someone hold their hand to get that information. There's just some footwork."

Ms. Gillis said there were obstacles. For instance, some people could not be contacted unless there was a direct visit.

"We have a lot of ideas for programs, but I have to nail in safely storing their information, finding them, being able to contact them and properly inviting them so that they can have a good time, see some old faces, and the instructors will feel a bit more content knowing that these people are new, they want to be here and this is great. It's been 30 days, so I think I'm on to a good start."

There being no public comment and no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Safety Committee

October 5, 2026

In attendance: Councilmember Henry Haddad, Chairman; Councilmembers Claire Cousin, Dominic Merante and Dewan Sarowar; Fire Chief Shawn Hoffman; Assistant Fire Chief Nic Pierro; Police Chief Mishanda Franklin; Police Captain Dave Miller; Code Enforcement Director Nick Fox

Mr. Haddad called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall and remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Fire

Chief Hoffman reported 30 calls in September, two of which were fires (burnt food and a dumpster fire), three for hazardous situations (an odor of gas, an electrical line down and an electrical fire), two motor vehicle accidents, 15 non-emergency calls and eight alarm activations.

Work on the new firetruck continued and the department hoped to have it in-house by the end of the month.

Police

Chief Franklin said there were no body worn camera reports from September that indicated any training needs or disciplinary action. There were no defensive action reports for the month, six calls for involving emotionally disturbed persons and no incidents of suspected overdoses or Narcan administered. Police had 884 incidents during the month and made 46 arrests on 68 charges.

Chief Franklin said the department would give a monthly report on the number of times license plate readers (LPRs) were used. There were 11 cases that utilized LPR searches in September though that did not necessarily mean how many instances a LPR was used. She gave the following breakdown: assist a citizen, assist State Police with an investigation, a suspended

registration, a city code violation, a suspicious vehicle, assist the Sheriff's Office, a detective investigation, another State Police assist, a sex offense, a report of gunshots and a reported hit and run. A further breakdown as to searches, bootable vehicles and traffic infractions will be included in next month's report.

Chief Franklin said she had planned to issue a press release related to a stolen gun case, however the person arrested was 18 years old. She conferred with the District Attorney's Office "and we just thought at this time it was just better not to do that."

Mr. Haddad said he received a report that U.S. Marshalls had picked up an individual on Warren Street over the weekend. "There was an instance with parole arresting someone on Friday that we didn't request," Chief Franklin said.

Mr. Haddad also said an issue that involved a car over a sidewalk on Court Street had been resolved.

Parking

Councilmembers asked if dual languages could be applied to the parking application and on signage and the kiosks. Ms. Cousin pointed out that the city had large Bengali and Spanish-speaking populations, as well as Haitian. The height of signage had been adjusted to accommodate people with permanent and temporary disabilities and to provide pedestrian clearance. It was mentioned that some people did not realize that they could zoom in on the QR codes on the signs. It was agreed that stickers could be placed on the kiosks.

Captain Miller said 3,670 parking tickets were issued in September and 2,462 were paid. Revenues for the month exceeded $141,000. Third quarter revenues totaled $421,000. He also reported that 15 vehicles were booted.

A total of 180 traffic tickets were issued in the third quarter for a 50 percent increase. Captain Miller said officers were told to use their discretion and to take e-bikes from juveniles younger than age 16. He said the intent was to be reasonable at first because many parents were unaware of the age requirement. One e-bike rider was ticketed for failure to yield the right of way.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Fox said that no stop work orders or orders to vacate were issued in September. Eight violations were issued, mostly for property maintenance issues, and 33 building permits issued for fees that totaled $17,000.

Neither Verizon or National Grid issued letters on their letterhead giving the city permission to take signs off of their utility poles, so Mr. Fox said he wrote a letter on his letterhead, posted it and took the signs down. "I'm taking the initiative to say that we can go ahead on their property and take them down."

A sign in front of the Beer Store on Green Street was finally removed.

Three companies contacted him over the last six months for city codes related to battery storage systems. One said they had looked at the former McGuire's Overhead Doors property at the end of Hudson Avenue. "I think we should put our heads together and decide if we want to make some codes regarding this," Mr. Fox said.

Mr. Merante said he believed Greene County had addressed the issue of battery storage. Resident Lloyd Koedding said the county Board of Supervisors may have talked about it too.

Mr. Haddad said language in the code related to sandwich boards could be cleaned up. "We know where they're legal," he said. Mr. Fox said it was a matter of contacting the owners to

make them aware of the code. Many of them were dilapidated. “That kind of bleeds into my other issue. Is there any language that anyone is familiar with that talks about the clearance for our crosswalk access, specifically our handicap access mats?” Mr. Haddad asked. “I see a lot of sandwich boards in between the two crosswalks. I see them right up to the pebble thing for handicapped accessibility where the ramp is… I see sometimes flowerpots. I definitely see it down on Cherry and South Third. The clearance there is less than four feet. Obviously, it’s difficult for a business to operate when they want to have a certain look and utilize all their space, but we have to have some kind of common ground. Can they litter the area on the corner between the pebbled mats where somebody’s going to come by in a wheelchair or need visual assistance and try to grab it? I think maybe we need to clear up our language just a little bit.”

Mr. Fox said the code addressed how close they could be to the curb as well as turning clearances. Mr. Merante said the Americans with Disabilities Act might come into play. He believed that the curb ramps had to be totally clear of impediments and obstacles, especially for visually impaired people because they sought out the tactile pad.

Mr. Haddad added that the sandwich boards were not supposed to be chained.

Mr. Haddad also informed Mr. Fox about a container with grease in the rear of a restaurant at Second Street and Prison Alley. Mr. Fox said he would inspect it because he wanted to talk with the owners about a vent that had dripped grease on the Second Street side of the building. Camilla’s and Stella’s had issues as well, Mr. Haddad said.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Legal Committee

October 8, 2026

In attendance: Council President Margaret Morris, Chairperson; Councilmembers Jennifer Belton, Claire Cousin (online) and Jason Foster; Ken Dow, Counsel (online)

Ms. Morris called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. at City Hall. It also was conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams and livestreamed on YouTube at Hudson City Zoom Meetings. The meeting was delayed for 10 minutes to allow Mr. Dow to connect remotely.

Parking Permits

Ms. Morris proposed moving the administrative function of issuing parking permits for the municipal lots to the Police Department, however under the City Charter the Parking Violations Bureau was established to dispose of only parking violations and to collect the fines from court-designated parking violations it has jurisdiction over. She met with Police Chief Mishanda Franklin to hash out a way to have a clerk in the Police Department handle the permit process and was waiting for a response.

Ms. Belton asked if that could be accomplished by passage of a local law to change the City Code. Ms. Morris said it would require a change to the Charter, “but the complication with that is what a Parking Violations Bureau can do is dictated by the courts.” Ms. Belton said violations and permits were not the same. Mr. Foster added that the bureau currently issued permits for parking spaces to be occupied by dumpsters.

"I don't think it's unlawful entirely, but it is weird having the Police Department have multiple roles in the process," Mr. Dow said. "Normally these things are separated where it's an administrative thing of the city to issue permits, it's an enforcement action by the police to issue the tickets and then it's a judicial role for the courts to dispense with them. Those things ideally would be separated." He said the City Charter could be changed to consolidate everything into one place, still, "it's really not an ideal arrangement just to have multiple roles in the same hands. If the city really wants to do it that way, I'm not sure that it's completely unlawful."

Ms. Morris reiterated that the administrative duties would be assigned to a clerk in the Police Department, not someone in the Parking Violations Bureau. Mr. Dow said the Council could override the general principle. Ms. Morris said the parking permits had nothing to do with fines and believed the transition could be made. She hoped to have something for the full Council to consider at the Informal meeting on October 19.

In a related matter, Mr. Foster said he and Code Enforcement Director Nick Fox had discussed cleaning up three different permits—dumpsters, sidewalk use and general construction type space reserves. "It's a messy little process right now."

Auction Houses

The Common Council changed fees related to auction houses from $25 a day to $30 per auction. A $100 annual fee, $500 surety bond and the requirement for them to maintain and submit paper copies of the catalogs were unchanged. Ms. Morris said that neither of the auction houses produced paper catalogs other than to give it to the city. "It seemed like a simple thing to go in and say that the catalogs should be maintained electronically. In both cases, they keep their catalogs in perpetuity, but actually it then turned into this very complicated thing where we have very involved regulations around the auction houses."

Her research found that New York City no longer had this regulation and the state did not license auctioneers. The Town of Copake had no requirements and the Town of New Lebanon's zoning defined auction sales, prohibited sale of livestock and stated that a building used for auctions was not considered a store.

"My recommendation is that we move away from this whole thing," Ms. Morris said. "It's unnecessary, we do nothing with it. It's probably from a time when there were people just coming in, an overnight auction, whatever. To me it is bureaucracy without any merit."

She said the cost of the permits was not an issue for either auction house owner. "The issue to them is the administrative burden of having to put all of this together." She added that the fees generated about $1,000 a year for the city. She said both houses would prefer a single annual fee for a permit. "It's budget neutral from our perspective. It eliminates all the bureaucracy from their perspective and then we don't have to maintain years of paper copies of catalogs that nobody has ever done anything with."

Mr. Dow was not sure that the surety bond served much of a purpose. He agreed that a single annual fee would be the easiest route. He agreed that the Council could eliminate the bond requirement, set an annual fee and repeal the remainder. Ms. Morris said she would bring that recommendation to the full Council.

Battery Storage

Ms. Morris said Mr. Fox informed her that had had received inquiries about what was in the City Code in relation to large-scale battery operations. One of the companies asked specifically about the former W.B. McGuire Co. site at the end of Hudson Avenue, which is

vacant. He drafted a resolution for the committee's review because he would like to have something to either regulate or prohibit these operations.

Mr. Foster wanted to discuss how the topic came up and immediately was directed to prohibited. "It's assumed that we wee going to prohibit and there was no discussion. Is it appropriate for us to discuss it first or the whole Council to discuss it first to see how we're feeling? I appreciate what he's done, but he's not the one setting policy."

Ms. Cousin said the issue came up in a Safety Committee meeting when the Fire Department reported having to respond to some electric battery fires. The discussion was not about large-scale commercial storage facilities, but about people getting lower quality batteries.

"I know that this industry has really grown considerably in the last year and what appears to be happening is that they are calling around to see which municipalities allow them and which municipalities do not," Ms. Morris said.

Some municipalities had enacted moratoriums on such facilities, including the Claverack, Athens and Hurley, while Clifton Park adopted a local law prohibiting them. "This is clearly a topic where the industry is looking to see where they can locate. Obviously, this has to be discussed with the full Council," she said.

Mr. Foster said the issue could be looked at as an opportunity to produce revenue. Ms. Belton was uncertain that such a facility would produce revenue. "These are large scale, like data centers. These are very large-scale operations and there is very limited space in the City of Hudson." Mr. Foster said that would be for a developer to decide.

He also said the issue was complicated by whether they were a public utility, which would limit the city's choices. He also said that they balanced out the power grid. Ms. Belton said that New York had the most moratoriums of all the states. "I have very mixed feelings about it. I did read about a scenario where because there are utilities… that sometimes they're tax exempt." Mr. Foster said that payments in lieu of taxes could be put in place that might generate more revenues. "I'm just trying to think about ways to help our budget and discussing it further rather than going straight to prohibiting." Ms. Belton said she could see the side "where we're storing energy from the sun and we're balancing out our grid," but on the other hand, her research found that when such facilities caught fire they burned for weeks. "I would, frankly, rather see some other kind of small industry come in and do something in that same space and we should be actively looking." Ms. Morris said there had been multiple failed attempts to get the owner to sell the property.

"I think the smart thing to do is to put in a moratorium for a few months because… my reading of it is that the Code allows utility uses and structures for public utility uses as conditional use permits in a bunch of the districts in the city," Mr. Dow said. He said that Mr. Fox would likely find that a private company would have to undergo review for a special condition use permit. "If it's some private company that isn't regulated by the PSC (Public Service Commission) and such, my view of it is they're not allowed to do it at all unless there's some other use that it could be categorized as. But it seems it may be limited to only certain companies that would be eligible to do this, and they'd have to go through the Planning Board which would take a few months."

He suggested that if there was not a consensus about prohibiting such facilities, or alternately, if the Council wanted to find places where they could be sited, "I think it would be prudent to do a moratorium." A local law to enact such a freeze for a few months would allow the Council to study the issue. "…That way nothing gets in there that you regret."

Mr. Dow said moratoriums were not uncommon. “It just gives you time to work out what you really want to do and make sure that nothing essentially irreversible comes in in the meantime.”

Members agreed to recommend that the full Council consider a moratorium.

There being no further business and no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Code and Infrastructure Committee

October 15, 2026

In attendance: Councilmembers Jason Foster, Chairman; Henry Haddad; Dewan Sarowar; Department of Public Works Superintendent Rob Perry
Absent: Councilmember Mohammed Rony

Mr. Foster called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall and remotely via Microsoft Teams. It also was livestreamed on YouTube at Hudson City Zoom Meetings.

DPW Report
Sewer

Mr. Perry reported septage revenue of $59,415 for August. At this point, there could be a surplus of about $40,000 for the year.

After many years, the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued a new state pollutant discharge elimination system (SPDES) permit. The old permit did not reflect the changes to the plant after a $12.5 million upgrade in 2010. That was reconciled with the new permit. The new permit also required a new sampler for the chlorine contact tank, which was installed. When an overflow occurs, the sampling unit will kick on and testing done just like what’s done for the secondary effluent discharges. Some new materials will be sampled as part of the new permit, including mercury, ammonia, chloroform, PFAS and WET chronic, which are actually samples from the Hudson River. “We have to take a sample in Coxsackie to use that as a baseline and then we’re going to sample down here to see how our plant has modified the chemistry of the Hudson River.” Asked if someone helped with that, he said a lab company offered help “because it’s in everybody else’s permit.” PFAS, or forever chemicals, are tested for in the water supply “It comes back non-detect even with the state’s thresholds being 500 times lower than the national threshold. The reason they have to test for it is because if people have Teflon pans in their kitchen and they wash dishes, technically the abrasion of the washing could put it in the wastewater, so we have to test for it. I don’t know what happens if you come back positive. Education I guess because you can’t ban Teflon pans. So, we’ve never tested for that stuff, not in the sanitary, not in the sewer. We had tested in the drinking water for almost 10 years.”

He reported that the secondary clarifiers were drained and hosed down, including the baffles.

A new secondary pump was purchased for between $30,000 and $35,000.
Comments on engineering plans for the stormwater separation project were received from the state Environmental Facilities Corp. (EFC). There were a few things to be addressed and sent back for another review and authorization to put the bid out. He hoped to let the bid in November

of December "so that way we have the winter to deal with selecting contractors. There's a lot of work that needs to take place from the time the contract is awarded until construction begins with a project, especially when you consider that you begin from the bottom up, which is where the largest components are."

Water

The city applied for a water supply grant for transmission lines at the Claverack pump station. He said the city had hoped to convert them to variable frequency drives. "These are just soft starts. They're meant to slow so the pump doesn't come on 100 percent immediately, but it's not going to give us what we need to actually control the variable speed, so it's going to be an add-on or be replaced, but that's part of the grant. We'll identify and come up with alternatives and then everything that comes out of that engineering report will be used to apply for grants." Water had pooled on Spring Street for a few months. Leak detection was done on the services for homes and hydrants, but nothing was found. Crews eventually excavated and found a very small break.

Of the 250 fire hydrants in the city, about 20 were out of service. Mr. Perry said most were older ones with parts that were difficult to find or not available. He said hydrants would be replaced over the next few years. Four were to be done to start, with a plan to do four or five a year at a cost of about $5,000 apiece. "There's 250 in the system, so there's still 230 that work. It's not like there's a shortage of hydrants, but we want them to work. They're out there for a reason." He said rather than spending a couple thousand on materials to fix four or five, it would cost $20,000 to replace four "but in the end it's an upgraded product. They will be new." He added that the connections on the front of the hydrants were requested as a standard by the Fire Department. The first hydrant will be installed on Glenwood Boulevard, where one had been out of service for some time. The only people affected will be those between the valves to be isolated, amounting to 20 or 30 households. Notices will be placed on doors.

Pipes were cleaned using a poly pig. The pig was inserted into the downstream section of the raw water transmission main at the Churchtown reservoir. Once it passed a "blow-off" it stopped and all of the water was blown to the ground.

DPW

A new stop sign was installed at Warren Street and Park Place. Mr. Perry explained that the sign had to be placed off the curb because there were too many conflicts, including a streetlight, a flashing light and state Department of Transportation (DOT) signs. "In order for us to move all of those would take months and a lot of money." He said the sign was clipped by a tractor trailer. "A surprising benefit of this is cars get out of Park Place easier," Mr. Foster said. "The same is kind of true on the other side." Mr. Haddad said his initial thought was that the sign was a terrible idea, "but personally it is much safer. It's working and the flow is faster."

A "children at play" sign was installed on Lake Street.

Mr. Perry said there had been questions about "free speech" signage attached to a stop sign. "Obviously there is freedom of speech in the United States, but it doesn't mean you can mount to a top sign. The only thing that can be mounted to a stop sign is anything that would help clarify the traffic control portion of it or safety."

Trees came down at the city lot at Fourth and State streets and on lower State Street. The latter was a huge willow that hung over the street. Crews pushed it over the guard rail for the property owner to do whatever they wished to do with it.

Mr. Perry made note that his department was asked to assist various agencies like the Hudson Community Development and Planning Agency, Hudson Development Corp. and the Industrial Development Agency with shoveling and mowing without compensation. “It’s happened for awhile. It’s not a huge inconvenience, but like I said, we are maintaining properties that are not city properties.”

Someone removed the grate out of an overflow drain near Oakdale. Because the screen was not in front of the overflow pipe, it was filled with debris and started to build up.
A fairly large ravine between Paddock Place and Joslen Place fills up during heavy rains, up to an estimated 15 feet. He said more than half of that water came from Greenport. “There is a discharge pipe at the bottom of it that goes under the houses on Paddock and goes into the ravine on the other side that runs along the school property. We had to build a road to get down there to try and clean that out. It’s still kind of full. We want to get it as best as we can, but we can’t It’s an old metal corrugated pipe. It’s like a 24-inch pipe that’s probably been in since the boulevards were built in the 1920s and ‘30s. Metal pipes don’t usually last 100 years. We’re just trying to clean out as much as we can… We’ve actually used the pump to take it out of there and put it in a basin and run it across the street that way.”

Crews investigated a sink hole. The source was a lateral from someone’s home. “At that point we would inform the property owner, turn it over to them, they hire a contractor, but about $4,000 worth of work is already complete, but we’d rather identify it visually than just go knock on the door, tell them to do it and then all of a sudden we’re paying a bill for a contractor.”
Mr. Perry shared photos of the July 30 storm that dropped nine inches of rain. One showed a man standing on Eighth Street in water up to his knees. “It’s called a flood and whatever system in the world you’ve got, it’s not going to withstand that amount.

Discussion followed on flooding at Second and Mill streets and whether it was worth pursing grant opportunities announced by the governor or whether it was feasible to drain that intersection to the wetlands. Mr. Perry said the basins along that area all tied into discharge pipes that go into the North Bay, but the pipe, even though large, got overwhelmed in heavy rains. “Is that intersection underwater during these torrential rains? It is, but I drove through it every single time and I drove out, so it’s not like you’re bringing scuba gear out. It is underwater, which means that all of our infrastructure is underwater, but every time it’s happened it’s been passable.” He said it usually dissipated in a mater of hours.

Ferry Street Bridge

Mr. Perry said he and City Treasurer Heather Campbell had been working to get reimbursements in place and received around $3 million in June. A local share of about $2.5 million for construction was submitted to DOT last month. That money was expected in December.

He noted that DOT required a high strength concrete that was notorious for cracking. “It’s not structural, it’s cosmetic.” He was perplexed that the DOT used that mix as opposed to the regular mix used on sidewalks.

Flood Plain Administrator

Mr. Perry was named flood plain administrator after City Code amendments last year. Because of that, he said he would attend a flood plain insurance program conference in Oriskany next month.

Public Comment

A resident said that one of the planting areas at Warren and Front streets were sickly and wondered what could be done about it. She was told that the plantings were part of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) and were chosen because they were supposed to be low maintenance. Members suggested that community groups could be mustered to take care of the plantings. Mr. Perry said he should be contacted because there was money in the parks budget for a contracting consultant who could provide input.

Resident Bill Huston said someone had contacted Mr. Foster with issues about the condition of Glenwood Boulevard near the lake. "You told Mr. Perry about it and he said he would get his guys on it when he could. I'd like to know when that was taken care of because only one side of the street was done, on the Oakdale side. The Oakdale side has been patched, I would say rather poorly, but it's been done. I guess I'm wondering why hasn't the other side of the street where people typically walk been taken care of?"

Mr. Huston also said that Mr. Perry had been informed by a resident that Storm Avenue had no overnight parking rules and that "everybody was parking on either side of the street so that the street wasn't swept properly in the wintertime after snowfall. …Mr. Perry said that it would get taken care of with parking signs installed on Storm Avenue. That has not happened. Not only has it not happened, but you Jason and you Henry have not brought this issue up to Mr. Perry's attention to find out why it hasn't happened and I'd like answers to both of those issues." He also asked Mr. Perry if he expected the concrete on the Ferry Street bridge to crack. Mr. Perry said he did not. Mr. Huston then asked if he was concerned that it would continue to crack and was again told no. "And who is going to repair the cracks and the crumbling concrete one it gets to that point?" Mr. Huston asked. "Well, it's not crumbling. It's superficial cracking. It's superficial, like your questions Bill," Mr. Perry said.

Mr. Perry also said that the side of Glenwood Boulevard that was repaired was the side that was requested and that the other side would likely be part of next year's paving project. There being no further business, Mr. Haddad made a motion to adjourn at 6:15 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Sarowar and approved by all members in attendance.

Informal Meeting

October 19, 2026

In attendance:
Council President Margaret Morris
First Ward Councilmembers Henry Haddad and Gary Purnhagen
Second Ward Councilmembers Dewan Sarowar and Mohammed Rony (online)
Third Ward Councilmembers Jason Foster and Lola Roberts
Fourth Ward Councilmembers Rich Volo and Jennifer Belton
Fifth Ward Councilmember Dominic Merante
Counsel Ken Dow, City Treasurer Heather Campbell (online)
Absent: Councilmember Claire Cousin

Council President Morris called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. at City Hall and remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Minutes

Councilmembers received minutes of a public hearing (September 21) and the regular meeting (September 29) and of the Finance Committee (September 29), Services Committee (October 1), Safety Committee (October 5), Legal Committee (October 8) and Infrastructure Committee (October 15).

Committee Reports

Legal

Ms. Morris said that two local laws would be laid on members' desks and a third, a proposed moratorium on commercial energy storage systems, had to be referred to the city and county Planning Boards. She said Code Enforcement Director Nick Fox had received inquiries related to battery storage facilities and he surmised that the firms were contacting municipalities to find out what, if any, associated regulations they had. Other municipalities had enacted moratoria to give them time to study the pros and cons. She attended a mini conference hosted by the Westchester Business Coalition in White Plains regarding battery storage facilities that touched on regulations, municipalities that had the same experience as Hudson and how fire departments responded to situations at them.

An amendment to Chapter 74 of the City Code would require a $500 annual permit for auction houses as opposed to $25 per auction, which she said would be budget neutral. Another amendment to City Code would move handling of municipal parking lot permits from the city clerk's office to a clerk in the Police Department.

The committee also discussed e-bikes and referred it to the Safety Committee.

Safety

Mr. Haddad said monthly reports were given by the Police and Fire Departments and most of the discussion focused on code-related issues. He also said members discussed how to inform shop owners that they had to remove their sandwich boards from the sidewalks.

Infrastructure

Mr. Foster reported that many initiatives had advanced, including the stormwater separation project. He said that $2.5 million was eligible for reimbursement for the Ferry Street bridge project from state touring routes. He also said that since Department of Public Works Superintendent Rob Perry had been named the city's flood plain manager, he would be attending a conference in Oriskany.

Mr. Foster shared that he noticed vehicles passing one another on Green Street. Because there are no lines, passing might be legal. He said he continued to pursue getting lines painted on Green Street. Ms. Roberts said she noticed that many drivers headed the wrong way on one-way streets, Fifth Street in particular.

Services

Mr. Merante said the Youth Department Director Calvin Lewis had five full-time positions budgeted for and was trying to backfill them. There are nine part-time employees. At one point there was a food service position, but it was never filled and vendors were being used

instead. However, the reimbursement process for the vendors had been problematic for the last two years, Mr. Merante said.

A plan of action was being prepared in response to an inspection by code enforcement. The cost to remedy deficiencies was about $3,500.

Around 100 signed up for the soccer program, which was scheduled to end on October 31. Signups were under way for the basketball program. Mr. Volo asked how many participants were in each of the programs. Ms. Morris said that Mr. Lewis reported to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment (BEA) that an average of 15 youths in kindergarten through grade two attended the afterschool program at the Hudson Area Library, an average of 25 in grades three to eight at the Youth Center and between seven and 12 for teens at the Youth Center. She said that did not include the basketball and soccer programs or summer camp.

Ms. Morris said the Youth Department had a contract with Columbia Kitchen for a couple of years, but the menus did not meet state requirements so there was no reimbursement. She said contracts were being drawn up with Mama Jean's food truck and the Hudson Sandwich Shop to provide food. She hoped that their menus would be sent to the state for preapproval. Ms. Belton asked if the city could make an arrangement with the school district, which provides snacks for its afterschool program. Mr. Merante said the school also gave out backpacks with food for youths to take home for the weekend.

Commissioner of Aging Brittany Gillis was busy preparing a budget and networking to try to connect with senior citizens who don't have phones and with others to familiarize them with programs and those who might want to offer programs.

Mr. Volo asked how many people attended programs for seniors. Mr. Merante said the numbers were convoluted because the county ran the majority of programming between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. "I don't think it's that many after the county leaves," he said.

Finance

Mr. Volo reported that a number of fees had been updated. The committee learned that the city's revenue estimate for cannabis was down significantly. Ms. Morris recommended that all read the most recent treasurer's report with respect to the unassigned fund balance, which was about $2.4 million in 2024. The state has its own calculations of what can be included in the unassigned fund balance, so that figure was $1.4 million. "If that was being looked at by the comptroller, there's a very good likelihood that in next year's report of cities under stress that we will be considered a city under stress."

Ms. Morris also encouraged members to watch the videos of the BEA meetings with department heads as a budget would be presented at a special meeting on November 9. The Council can reduce items in the budget but cannot increase anything, she said. "If we are going to make informed decisions this year, it really behooves all of us to watch those and read the treasurer's report." She said the BEA would review projected revenues this week and at first blushed there appeared to be a $1.5 million gap between anticipated revenues and expenditures in 2027. "This is a very important responsibility of the Council to actually be informed about this. Obviously, we need to grow revenue, but we also need to be looking at what our essential services are and what can we afford to do because right now, as of the end of 2025, in that report we are not in a very positive place."

Ms. Campbell said that the city took a $1.3 million hit to the unassigned fund balance in 2024 and an addition hit of about $170,000 in 2025, "so unfortunately, we're not going in the right direction. There are some saving graces in that the costs associated with the Ferry Street

bridge short-term borrowing and the DRI short-term borrowing will start to phase out. But on the other hand, we're adding new debt service for the pumper truck that the Fire Department's about to take in this week and obviously the contractual agreements that you all approved are going to have a pretty significant impact on the personal services line. So, it's a challenging situation at this point."

Resident Bill Huston asked if people were allowed to speak at one meeting, that they could do so at all meetings. Ms. Morris said the decision to allow public comments was at the discretion of the various chairpersons.

Mr. Huston said there was a problem with e-bikes and e-scooters on sidewalks and there was no enforcement.

Resident Lloyd Koedding agreed that attending or watching the BEA meetings had value because department heads went into detail on their budget requests. "It's very informative. You get a lot of color."

Budget Amendment

Ms. Morris said a resolution had been put forth to use $63,500 from the fund balance to cover anticipated legal fees for the rest of the year. A $113,000 budget amendment was submitted for legal fees a few months ago. "We threw that back and we are now at a point where to cover the expenses for this month I believe we would have needed approximately another $15,000 to $20,000. This resolution requests an additional $63,500 amendment to bring it back up to where it was." She said the Council could consider $40,000 because the total amount requested was not needed this month. Mr. Haddad made a motion to amend the resolution to $40,000, which was seconded by Mr. Sarowar and approved in a roll call vote of all members in attendance. Mr. Haddad made a motion to approve the amended resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Sarowar and approved in a roll call vote of all members in attendance.

Resolutions

Councilmembers received the following resolutions to be considered at the regular meeting on October 27:

• Appointment of Marissa Ball and Kevin Keyser as commissioners of deeds from November 1, 2026, through October 31, 2028.

• Appointment of Brent Kreuger to the Public Works Board to succeed Dave Marston, who resigned.

• Authorizing an application to the Understory for grant of up to $50,000 through the Hudson Estuary Resilience Effort (HERE) grant program.

• Authorizing an amendment to an agreement with Crawford and Associates Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C., as project manager for the sidewalk improvement district, with a cost of services not to exceed $20,000 without prior approval of the Council. Ms. Morris said the resolution would be revised to include an end date.

• Authorizing an interfund loan of up to $350,000 from the general fund to the Oakdale Park capital fund for improvements to the park.

• Authorizing issuance of serial bonds in an aggregate principal amount of up to $935,000 for improvements to Oakdale Park.

• Authorizing the mayor to execute a services agreement with Brownfield Redevelopment Solutions Inc. to administer grants for site work and new playground construction in Oakdale Park.

• Authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement with Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners to provide $160,000 in final phase planning for the Furgary Fishing Village/North Bay Park.

Bills

Mr. Haddad made a motion to approve payment of bills, which was seconded by Mr. Purnhagen and approved in a roll call vote of all members in attendance.

Local Laws

The following local laws were introduced and laid on councilmembers' desks:

• Amendment of Chapter 74 of the City Code related to auctions.

• Amendment of Section 304-34 of City Code related to parking permits.

Mr. Dow outlined the reasoning behind a proposed one-year moratorium on commercial battery energy storage systems and explained the contents of the proposed local law. He said it was a Type 2 action so the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process was not required. Mr. Haddad made a motion to submit the proposed local law to the city and county Planning Boards for review. Mr. Volo offered a second and the motion was approved by all members in attendance.

Public Comment

Mr. Haddad encouraged his colleagues to participate in the Hudson Reads program at the elementary school.

Resident Ron Kopnicki asked who evaluated the proposal for the fishing village. Ms. Morris said she was involved in the evaluation but did not know who else did. Mr. Kopnicki asked if there were any meetings regarding the proposal. Ms. Morris said there were no meetings. Mr. Kopnicki asked if the records were available to the public. Ms. Morris did not know and referred him to Mayor's Aide Tiffany Martin.

Resident Matt McGhee felt that the evaluation should have been a public matter. "I would say that the Constitution is involved in this. The right to petition government brings with it the right to know what government is doing and is an enumerated right retained by the people, not to be denied or disparaged and it certainly is in this case because we don't know what's going on. That is a denial and disparaging of this right to know what's going on, what the government is doing, and I think it needs to be straightened out. It's been happening under this administration, and the previous administration started it. Prior to that these meetings were public, and nothing was done behind closed doors."

Mr. Huston complained that the window of the machine in front of City Hall that dispensed garbage bags was scratched and difficult to see through. "It's a disgrace. Please, somebody get that window replaced for a little respect in front of City Hall…"

He also said that sidewalks installed on South Fifth Street last week had already cracked. Mr. Huston also suggested that if Mr. Fox used a ladder to remove signs from utility poles that he shouldn't. DPW should remove them using a bucket truck. He also complained about multiple streetlights throughout the city that were on all the time, including one on lower Union Street that he reported a year and a half ago. "There is something wrong at DPW if we can't get our own streetlights turned off and stop wasting money and electricity. This is a serious problem, people.

Mr. Merante asked about a referendum to increase funding for the library. Ms. Morris said there would be a ballot measure to increase the city's contribution to the library from $400,000 to $450,000. She said it would be put into contingency in next year's budget in case the measure passed.

Ms. Morris said the Council would have an attorney-client session immediately following the meeting. There being no further business, Mr. Merante made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Sarowar and approved by all members in attendance.

On motion of **Councilmember Foster**, seconded by **Councilmember Sarowar**, the following Communications were ordered received and placed on file. Carried.

The Clerk presented the Mayor's veto to the Council.

1. Mayor's Veto regarding Resolution No. 6 dated September 29, 2026.
2. Police Department – Quarterly Vehicle and Traffic Report (Third Quarter 2026)
3. Police Department – Monthly Report Section 9 Data Reporting (Sep 2026)
4. Parking Violations Bureau Report (Sep 2026)
5. Police Department – BWC Weekly Report (Sep 2026)
6. DPW – Superintendents Report
7. Youth Department Report (Sep 2026)

President Morris stated that the veto is irrelevant as the Council was just expressing their opinion. There will be no re-vote on the Resolution.

Resolutions.

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Sarowar**, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 1 October 27, 2026

RESOLVED, that the following be and hereby are appointed Commissioners of Deeds in and for the City of Hudson, County of Columbia, for the following term:

November 1, 2026, through October 31, 2028	**Work**
Marissa Ball 1450 County Route 7A, Apt B, Copake, NY	25 Railroad Ave
Kevin Keyser 5976 State Rt 9H, Hudson, NY	701 Union St.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin and Merante.

Nays: None.

On motion of **Councilmember Purnhagen**, seconded by **Councilmember Foster**, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 2 October 27, 2026

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BRENT KREUGER TO THE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XXII of the City Charter there is a Public Works Board comprised of five members, one of whom is a member of the community appointed by the Common Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that Brent Kreuger is hereby appointed to the Public Works Board, for a term ending on December 31, 2027.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin and Merante.
Nays: None.

On motion of **Councilmember Belton**, seconded by **Councilmember Haddad**, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 3 October 27, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF HUDSON TO APPLY FOR A REGIONAL RESILIENCY GRANT APPLICATION FROM THE UNDERSTORY

WHEREAS, The Understory has announced the availability of a $4,000,000 grant program as part of H.E.R.E (The Hudson Estuary Resilience Effort); and

WHEREAS, these **Regional Resilience Grants** aim to foster social and ecological resilience in the Hudson Valley by supporting local non-profit projects and organizations working in the areas of culture, ecology, food/farming, and shelter; and

WHEREAS, entities within ten counties are eligible to apply: Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Ulster, and Westchester; and

WHEREAS, Grants range from $10,000 to $200,000 and most awards are likely to fall between $25,000 and $100,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson seeks to submit a grant application to install a community art and quick build project aimed at traffic calming and creating improved pedestrian connectivity and safety at the intersection of 4th Street and State Street, and on Front Street at the Amtrak station; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires no cost match and upfront funds from the City;

WHEREAS, the application would apply for the Culture project category, applications are due by November 18th, 2026;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUDSON:

1. **Authorization to Apply:** The Mayor and/or the City Administrator are hereby authorized to submit an application to the Understory in an amount not to exceed $50,000.

2. **Commitment of Local Match:** None

3. **Execution of Documents:** The Mayor is authorized to execute all necessary grant agreements, contracts, and related documents required to accept the grant and implement the project.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin and Merante.
Nays: None.

President Morris stated proposed Resolution No. 4 would Authorize Amendment #5 to the Existing Agreement with Crawford & Associates Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C. as Project Manager for the ADA Compliance – Sidewalk Improvement District.

On motion of **Councilmember Purnhagen**, seconded by **Councilmember Foster**, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 4 October 27, 2026

AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT #5 TO THE EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH CRAWFORD & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING, P.C. AS PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE ADA COMPLIANCE - SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Common Council approved Resolution No. 1 at its July 8, 2024, special meeting, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Crawford & Associates Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C. ("Crawford & Associates") to serve as Project Manager for the initial planning phase of the ADA Compliance - Sidewalk Improvement District; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council approved Resolution No. 8 and Resolution No. 9 on November 19, 2024, authorizing Amendment #1 and Amendment #2, respectively, to continue Phase 1 work and prepare for Phase 2 work; and

WHEREAS, the agreement has subsequently been amended, and Crawford & Associates has submitted Contract Amendment #5, dated August 24, 2026, to provide services as needed and requested to assist the Public Works Board with the further development of ADA improvements throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, Contract Amendment #5 provides that such services will be performed on a time-and-expense basis in accordance with Crawford & Associates' schedule of rates, in an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) without prior authorization, and that all other terms and conditions of the original agreement will remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Board accepts the proposed terms and recommends that the Common Council authorize Contract Amendment #5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute Contract Amendment #5 with Crawford & Associates Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C., substantially in the form presented to the Common Council and subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost of services under Contract Amendment #5 shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) without prior authorization of the Common Council; and that Contract Amendment #5 shall expire on December 31, 2026, unless extended by further authorization of the Common Council; and that the cost of services shall be drawn against Account SID.5410.0460 Sidewalk Repairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of the existing agreement, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect.

APPROVED BY BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND APPORTIONMENT.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin and Merante.

Nays: None.

Prior to the vote **Councilmember Foster** stated that he would like an update regarding the project.

Councilmember Purnhagen stated he would provide an update at the next meeting.

Council President Morris stated this could be done at the next Informal Meeting.

President Morris stated Proposed Resolution No. 5 would Authorize the Mayor to Prepare an Agreement with the Winning Bidder for the Furgary Fishing Village/North Bay Park Final Planning Phase.

Councilmember Foster asked where the money is coming from?

President Morris said "the question that was asked about this last week was for the scoring." She added "there was no scoring, so what you have here is the scoring of those submissions and it was unanimous that Starr Whitehouse was preferred.

Councilmember Foster stated he just wants to talk to the grant.

Councilmember Belton said "isn't that the Estuary Grant."

Councilmember Foster said "I think it would have been nice to have that in the Resolution."

President Morris stated she could follow up and get an answer to that. She added "do you feel you could vote on that, or do you wish to hold off?"

President Morris said "Tiffany I don't know if you heard Jason's question?"

Tiffany Martin, Mayoral Aide said "that was in a resolution that was already passed by the Common Council. It's a Hudson River Estuary Grant from the DEC and the local match I is about $37,000."

Ken Dow, Counsel to the Council asked if the specific agreement there.

President Morris said "no it is not. It's authorizing to enter into an agreement with winning…"

Mr. Dow stated but not the executed contract.

President Morris stated that the council does not have the contract that is going to be executed with Starr Whitehouse and since we have had issues with this in the past I think we are going to need to see that to actually approve execution of the contract.

Ms. Martin said "right and that we would do this is more acceptance of the bid as it is, but we would send the contract to the Council next month."

President Morris stated that the council would do a motion to amend the resolution.

On motion of **Councilmember Belton**, seconded by **Councilmember Haddad,** Proposed Resolution No. 5 has been amended. Carried.

On motion of **Councilmember Purnhagen**, seconded by **Councilmember Belton**, the following **AMENDED** resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 5 October 27, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PREPARE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WINNING BIDDER FOR THE FURGARY FISHING VILLAGE/NORTH BAY PARK FINAL PLANNING PHASE

WHEREAS; a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on August 17, 2026, with a due date of September 18, 2026, as approved by the Common Council; and

WHEREAS, responses were received from two firms, Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners and Assemblage Landscape Architecture; and

WHEREAS, a panel of evaluators was provided a scoring rubric to ensure fair, independent assessment of both proposals; and

WHEREAS,; the panel has selected Starr Whitehouse's proposal based on the following criteria: experience, project understanding, staff capacity, similar experience, expected SDVOB/MWBE/WBE utilization with a focus on SDVOB, approach, and cost;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council authorizes the Mayor to prepare an agreement with Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners to provide

$160,000 (fixed fee basis) in final phase planning for the Furgary Fishing Village/North Bay Park.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin and Merante. (10)
Nays: Councilmember Haddad. (1)

President Morris stated that Proposed Resolution No. 7 would Increase Parking Meter Fees for Public On-Street Parking. She added that in May of last year a resolution was passed to increase the parking fees in Municipal lots, short term lots from $.25 to $.75 and in language of that the argument was that, well the intent was to increase rates also for the on-street because on-street has always been more expensive than the municipal lots to encourage people to use the municipal lots but somehow this never went through.

On motion of **Councilmember Foster**, seconded by **Councilmember Haddad**, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote:

RESOLUTION NO. 7 October 27th, 2026

A RESOLUTION INCREASING PARKING METER FEES FOR PUBLIC ON-STREET PARKING

Whereas, The City of Hudson Common Council, pursuant to Sec. 305-20(A) of the Hudson City Code, is empowered to set parking rates withing the City; and

Whereas, on-street hourly parking rates are currently 50 cents; and

Whereas, Short-Term Municipal Parking lot hourly rates are 75 cents; and

Whereas, increasing on-street hourly parking rates will encourage use of Short-Term Municipal Parking lots.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the hourly parking rate for on-street parking is hereby set at $1.00 per hour.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Belton, Volo, and Merante. (8)
Nays: Councilmembers Purnhagen, Roberts, and Cousin. (3)

Local Laws.

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Volo**, the following Proposed Local Law was enacted by the following vote:

Proposed Local Law Introductory No. "'J" of 2026

A Local Law Amending Chapter 74 of the Code with Respect to Auctions

DRAFT for Introduction, October 19, 2026

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Hudson, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

The City of Hudson Common Council finds that many of the provisions of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson, which regulates auctions and auctioneers, are obsolete or impose unnecessary or redundant administrative burdens on both City officials and the auction businesses subject to such law, and that the elimination of such provisions and the modification of the remainder of such Chapter 74 is therefore warranted and desirable.

§ 2.

Sections 74-2, 74-3, 74-4, 74-5, 74-6, 74-7, 74-8, 74-9, 74-10, 74-13, 74-14, 75-15, 74-16, 74-17, 74-18, 74-19, 74-20, 74-21, 74-22, 74-23, and 74-24 of Chapter 74 (Auctions and Auctioneers) of the Code of the City of Hudson are repealed.

§ 3. Section 74-1 (Definitions) of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson is amended to read as follows:

§74-1 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following term shall have the meaning indicated:

AUCTION PRINCIPAL—Any person, business, or entity that arranges or provides a venue or administration for the sale of goods at auction and retains a commission, payment, or portion of sale proceeds as compensation for conducting the sale of goods at such auction.

§ 4. Section 74-11 (Permit to conduct an auction required) of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson is renumbered as Section 74-2.

§ 5. Section 74-12 (Application for permit; issuance; fee) of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson is renumbered as Section 74-3 and amended to read as follows:

§74-3 Application for permit; issuance; fee.

Application for a permit to conduct an auction sale or sales of personal property (goods, wares or merchandise) shall be made by the auction principal to the City Clerk on a form to be provided by the Clerk, which shall identify the auction principal and specify the place or places to which the permit pertains. The City Clerk shall issue an auction permit, which shall authorize the conduct of auctions by the auction principal for a period of time not exceeding one year, upon submission of a completed application and payment of the prescribed fee as shall be established by the Common Council. Each auction permit shall be effective as of the date of issuance and shall expire the 31st day of December immediately following such date, and there shall not be a reduction in fee for a fractional part of a year.

§ 6. Section 74-25 (Classes of sales exempt from provisions) of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson is renumbered as Section 74-4 and amended to read as follows:

§74-4 Classes of sales exempt from provisions.

The provisions of this chapter shall not be applicable to auction sales conducted by trustees or referees in bankruptcy, executors, administrators, receivers or other public officers acting under judicial process, nor to the sale of real property at auction or sales by licensed pawnbrokers of unredeemed pledges or sales conducted under the auspices of religious or eleemosynary institutions, nor to events commonly known as “silent auctions” conducted for fundraising purposes by or on behalf of a not-for-profit entity or for a charitable purpose.

§ 7. Section 74-26 (Statutory provisions not impaired) of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson is renumbered as Section 74-5.

§ 8. Section 74-27 (Penalties for offenses; civil remedies) of Chapter 74 of the Code of the City of Hudson is renumbered as Section 74-6 and amended to read as follows:

§74-6 Penalties for offenses.

Any auctioneer or auction principal who conducts an auction without a valid and effective permit for such auction having been obtained in accordance with this chapter shall be guilty of a violation and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars ($1,000).

§ 9. Statement of Authority.
This law is enacted pursuant to the authority of the NY Municipal Home Rule Law, including but not limited to M.H.R.L. sections 10, 20 and 27, and NY Penal Law section 80.05.

§ 10. Effective Date.

This local law shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin and Merante.
Nays: None.

President Morris stated Proposed Local Law "K" Enacted a Moratorium on Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems. She said "because this related to Zoning it has been submitted to, as you know, last week you gave permission to submit to the Planning Boards. It's been submitted to County and Local Planning Boards. In case they have any comments. I believe the County came back with and said it was fine; they had no concerns." She said "and we should have a response from the local Planning Board in time for our next meeting, hopefully."

Mr. Dow said "it's not actually an amendment to the Code so there is a pretty good argument that it doesn't require that, just to cover all the bases and make sure nobody objects."

Proposed Local Law Introductory No. "K" of 2026

A Local Law Enacting a One-Year Moratorium
on Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems

DRAFT for Introduction, October 19, 2026

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Hudson as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

The City of Hudson has become aware of increasing interest from commercial entities in the placement and operation of commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems and facilities ("BESS"). Commercial BESS Facilities typically consist of arrays of large capacity, rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, which draw energy from the grid at off-peak periods for storage and subsequent distribution during periods of higher demand. The installation and operation of such Commercial BESS Facilities raises numerous significant concerns in relation to public health, safety, and welfare, particularly regarding the risk of fire and air, groundwater, and soil contamination.

The Common Council of the City of Hudson is authorized by the State of New York to regulate and control land use within the City of Hudson and has the duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of City residents. New York State law authorizes a local government to enact zoning regulations which determine permissible uses in zoning districts. This moratorium addresses zoning and regulations only and does not regulate or attempt to regulate the actual operations of any utility or power transmission facility.

The Common Council believes that studying this issue is necessary so that zoning regulations with respect to Commercial BESS Facilities can be formulated so as to protect the City from potential negative impacts. New and increasing interest in the installation of Commercial BESS facilities has given the City of Hudson sufficient reason to believe that additional study and examination of necessary land use regulations relating to Commercial BESS Facilities is warranted. Therefore, the Common Council, through this local law, declares a one-year moratorium on Commercial BESS Facilities in the City of Hudson.

It is the intent of the Common Council that, during this one-year moratorium, the City of Hudson will examine whether additional local zoning regulation is necessary and the extent of such regulation. If such local zoning regulation is necessary, the Common Council may determine the appropriate rules and regulations to ensure comprehensive uniformity, fairness and consistency in such regulations. Further, the Common Council will utilize the moratorium period to further examine the significant safety and environmental issues relating to Commercial BESS Facilities within the City of Hudson.

§ 2. Definitions.

BATTERY: A device consisting of one or more anodes and one or more cathodes, able to store energy electrochemically and to discharge electrical energy. For purposes of this local law, batteries ordinarily used in consumer products, vehicle batteries, and batteries that solely serve a single-family or two-family residence and which are situated on the same parcel as such single family or two-family residence shall be excluded from consideration and are exempt from the provisions of this local law.

COMMERCIAL BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS FACILITY or COMMERCIAL BESS FACILITY: For the purposes of this local law, the term “Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems Facility” or “Commercial BESS Facility” shall mean any system or facility, or group of systems or facilities on a single lot or parcel, consisting of or containing one or more batteries, assembled together, capable of storing energy in order to supply electrical energy at a future time with an aggregate energy capacity greater than 500kWh. This definition shall exclude a battery or battery system accessory to a single-family or two-family residence used for storage of solar-generated power for exclusive use of such residence or for net-metering purposes, provided that the energy distributed off-site or to the grid does not exceed twenty-five percent of the energy used on-site by the on-site residence.

PERSON: For the purposes of this local law, the term "person" shall include an individual, society, club, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation, LLC or other business venture or association of persons, and the singular shall include the plural number, except that with respect to section eight of this local law, a corporation shall be subject to penalties as provided for corporations.

§ 3. Exclusion from definition of “public utility”.

For purposes and during the term of this local law, a “public utility,” “public utility use” or “public utility structure” as referenced in Chapter 325 (Zoning) of the Code of the City of Hudson shall be deemed not to include a Commercial BESS Facility. No Commercial BESS Facility shall be permitted as part of an application for a building permit, conditional use permit, or site plan approval for a public utility, public utility use, or public utility structure, and the prohibitions set forth in this local law shall apply to all Commercial BESS Facilities regardless of ownership or management of the proposed Commercial BESS Facility or the parcel on which it is proposed to be situated.

§ 4. Establishment or expansion of Commercial BESS Facilities prohibited.

A. For the period of twelve months following the effective date of this local law, Commercial BESS Facility shall not be a permitted use, whether by right, conditional use, or otherwise, in any zoning district within the City of Hudson, whether as a primary use, accessory use, or in any manner whatsoever.

B. For the period of twelve months following the effective date of this local law, no new Commercial BESS Facilities or operations, or facilities for activities associated with or in furtherance of Commercial BESS Facilities shall be constructed, developed, established, installed, or permitted in the City of Hudson.

C. For the period of twelve months following the effective date of this local law, no expansion of any existing Commercial BESS Facilities or operations, or facilities for activities associated with or in furtherance of Commercial BESS Facilities, shall be constructed, developed, installed, or permitted in the City of Hudson.

D. Except as set forth in Section 6 of this local law, no permit application for a Commercial BESS Facility or construction, development or other activities associated with or in furtherance of a Commercial BESS Facility which is subject to obtaining a building permit, conditional use permit, site plan approval, or variance from the City of Hudson or its building inspector, code enforcement officer, planning board, zoning board of appeals, or historic preservation commission, shall be granted or approved by any such officer or body.

§ 5. Exceptions.

The lawful use of any premises on the effective date of this local law operated under a permit issued by the City of Hudson or other appropriate state or federal agency may be continued, provided that such use, if prohibited under this local law, shall not be enlarged or extended beyond the existing location and operation.

§ 6. Variances.

A. The Zoning Board of Appeals retains the power and sole discretion to vary or adapt the strict application of the requirements of this local law in the case of unnecessary hardship, difficulties with the area or use requirements of the zoning regulations or circumstances that would unconstitutionally deprive the owner of all economically viable and productive use of the lands involved, provided the application is consistent with the intent of this local law.

B. An application for a variance shall be governed by and subject to the requirements and procedures generally applicable for a variance application in the City of Hudson. In addition, any costs, including expert consulting fees, incurred by the City shall be paid by the applicant immediately upon request. The applicant may be required to place into escrow funds sufficient to ensure the payment of any such costs, as the zoning board of appeals shall direct. Failure to provide such escrow funds or to promptly pay any costs incurred by the City in connection with the variance application may result in denial or suspension of the application.

C. All decisions on granting or denying such variances shall be made by the zoning board of appeals solely, after determining whether or not the requested variance is

compatible with the Comprehensive Plan of the City and the City zoning regulations. Unless the applicant can prove that the requirements for the proposed variance are satisfied, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall, as appropriate, deny the application.

§ 7. Enforcement.

This local law shall be enforced by the building inspector or code enforcement officer of the City of Hudson, or such other zoning enforcement or law enforcement individual(s) or agency as designated by the Common Council. It shall be the duty of the enforcement individual(s) to advise the Common Council of all matters pertaining to the enforcement of this local law and to keep all records necessary and appropriate to the office and to file the same in the office of the City Clerk.

§ 8. Violations.

A. In accordance with NYS Municipal Home Rule Law §10 and the authority to establish fines set forth in NYS Penal Law §§ 80.05 and 80.10, any person other than a corporation violating subdivision B or C of section four of this local law, except pursuant to a variance issued pursuant to section six of this local law, shall be guilty of a violation and upon a conviction thereof, be subject to a fine, fixed by the court, not exceeding one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) per day of such violation and a civil penalty of no less than five hundred dollars ($500.00) and no more than two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500.00) per day for of such violation. Any corporation violating subdivision B or C of section four of this local law, except pursuant to a variance issued pursuant to section six of this local law, shall be guilty of a violation and upon a conviction thereof, be subject to a fine, fixed by the court, not exceeding four thousand dollars ($4,000.00) per day of such violation and a civil penalty of no less than five hundred dollars ($500.00) and no more than five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) per day of such violation. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate and additional violation. An action may be commenced in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover such penalty. In addition, thereto, violations of this local law shall be subject to being restrained by injunctive relief.

B. If a penalty provision of this section shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to exceed a lawful limit or otherwise to be invalid, then a person convicted of violating any provision of this local law shall be subject to the maximum penalties that may be imposed pursuant to New York Law.

§ 9. Early termination of this local law.

If, within twelve months from the effective date of this Local Law, the City of Hudson enacts a subsequent local law relating to Commercial BESS Facilities, the moratorium imposed by this local law and the provisions of this local law provided to be in effect during such moratorium shall expire immediately on the date such City of Hudson local law relating to Commercial BESS Facilities takes effect in accordance with section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, unless the later local law adopted relating to Commercial BESS Facilities imposes or continues the moratorium imposed by this local law.

§ 10. SEQRA classification.

As a land use moratorium, this local law shall be classified as a Type II action for the purposes of SEQRA. As such, SEQRA does not apply to the enactment of this moratorium.

§ 11. Statement of Authority and conflict with other laws.

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to § 10 and Article 3 of the NYS Municipal Home Rule Law, § 20 of the NYS General City Law, § 10 of the Statute of Local Governments, and the Charter and Code of the City of Hudson. During the duration of times that this local law is in effect, it shall take precedence over and shall be considered controlling over contrary laws, ordinances and provisions including, but not limited to, provisions in the Code of the City of Hudson and any statute that would otherwise require the acceptance, processing, or determination of an application for, or require the issuance of, a building permit, conditional use permit, or site plan review, or require that any such action be taken within a specified period of time. Specifically, this Law is intended to supersede General City Law §§ 27-a(8) and 27-b(6), and City of Hudson Code §§ 325- 34 and 325-35 to the extent such sections authorize the consideration, processing, and approval of special use permits, conditional use permits or site plan review or prescribe any time limitations with respect to applications for such permits.

§ 12. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, subdivision, or part of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operations to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section, subdivision, or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.

§ 13. Effective date.

This Local Law shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

BE IT ENACTED this ___ day of _____, 2026 by the Common Council of the City of Hudson of Columbia County, New York

President Morris stated Proposed Local Law "L" would Amend Section 305-34 of the Code Regarding Parking Permits. The City Clerk wanted this physically laid on your desk. She said "there was language in here that identified the Clerk and not the Mayor as designating the individual responsible for the permits, that had to be revised so since the final version was not on your desks last week, we are holding off on voting on this until next month but now you have it on your desks."

Proposed Local Law Introductory No. "L" of 2026

A Local Law Amending Section 305-34 of the Code Regarding Parking Permits

DRAFT for Introduction, October 19, 2026
REVISED and Amended, October 22, 2026

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Hudson, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

The City of Hudson Common Council finds that in the interest of administrative efficiency it is desirable to assign the authorization to issue annual parking permits to administrative personnel within the City of Hudson Police Department.

§ .2 Subdivision A of Section 305-34 (Annual permits) of Article V of Chapter 304 of the Code of the City of Hudson is amended to read as follows:

A. The City shall make available annual parking permits to be issued as of January 1 of each year hereafter. Such permit shall be issued upon application to the office or non-uniformed administrative personnel within the City of Hudson Police Department designated by the Mayor and payment of the annual permit fee as established by the

Common Council. A record of all permits so issued shall be provided monthly by the Police Department to the Common Council. The annual parking permit shall be valid for the calendar year in which it is issued and shall terminate December 31st of the calendar year in which it is issued. A valid permit shall allow the vehicle in which such annual parking permit is prominently displayed to be parked in any municipal parking lot without parking meter payments, provided, however, that no vehicle 84 inches or more in width and more than 84 inches in height or more than 20 feet in length may use such annual parking permit. No refunds for lost or stolen permits are available.

§ 3. Statement of Authority.

This law is enacted pursuant to the authority of the NY Municipal Home Rule Law, including but not limited to M.H.R.L. sections 10, 20 and 27.

§ 4. Effective Date.

This local law shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

President Morris stated Proposed Local Law F would Establish a Charter Revision Commission back in August we had a resolution to enact a Local Law regarding Charter Revision Commission this was first off was in July it was amended based on feedback, it was laid on your desks in August. We tabled it in August, and it is still the same as it was then. She said "it is still nine members with on from at least from each ward, with appointment of members by the Council President, in consultation with the Common Council. So, I want to bring this forward for a vote, up or down so we can either move forward, or we can close it and it's as simple as that."

Councilmember Belton said "how are we going to be consulted."

President Morris stated we are going to go into executive session, and we are going to discuss the personnel and I have already met individually with each one of you so that you know exactly who is on this list but I don't want to discuss personnel in a public meeting. She added that Councilmember Foster asked the same question last month and the same response was provided.

Councilmember Foster said "I do not think I understand the answer but…I don't understand why not, "

President Morris said "because I am not going to discuss individuals in an open public individuals but I am not going to have that conversation."

Councilmember Foster stated the feedback, I understand better now.

Mr. Dow said "oh yeah the Executive Session Law allow you to go into Executive Session to discuss the appointment of people, disciplines and so forth."

Councilmember Merante stated he would like a limit on expenses to be re-imbursed.

President Morris said "expenses? Well, there aren't… well this is not on budget. Everyone on this is volunteering.

Councilmember Rony stated that there is a clause that states "necessary expenses will be re-imbursed" so would prefer that there is a maximum. That kind of leaves it open ended.

President Morris said "right but I think that's not really going to happen and that we will be meeting here, and I don't think the planning Boards incurs any expenses in Planning their meeting." She said "here's the thing I would like you to make a decision if we want to amend this again it's going to be, it's been sitting here since August. This did not come up in August. If I have to amend this again then we have to wait another month and there is actually a time frame on how long it will take for us to actually sit down and look at the Charter and come up, you know we have to look at the entire Charter that's a regulation in the State and then come up with reasonable improvements that we can then bring forward to the people." She said "so I'm fine with you say no we don't want to go forward with this, but I don't want to keep bring this back because next there will be something else. So, it's fine if it's unacceptable, it's unacceptable."

Councilmember Haddad stated it's fine and I think you did some good work. Yes or no, I trust everyone in this room to have a logical conversation in executive session.

Councilmember Merante stated with regard to expenses we're going to have to approve them anyway so it's going to be in our hands.

Mr. Dow said "actually, that's an important section because under E. it says "the commission may appoint compensated employees and consultants and incur expenses."

President Morris said "but if we do that, the commission will have to get approval to do that."

Mr. Dow stated well not exactly.

President Morris said "well where are they going to get their money from."

Mr. Dow said "because this under Municipal Home Rule Law this specific authorizations, the City, may appropriate such funds as are necessary for their expenses incurred by the Commission and upon failure of the appropriating bodies to timely provide such funds, the Mayor may authorize the expenditures, which shall b charge against the City."

President Morris said "so if we don't do it the Mayor can do it." She added "this group of people in a back room cannot suddenly decide without the permission of the Council or the Mayor to spend $100,000."

Mr. Dow stated that it says they can hire.

President Morris stated that it is up the City to appropriate. Somebody has got to approve their expenses.

Councilmember Belton asked if it could be amended.

President Morris stated you can vote yes or you can vote no. I am not going to amend it again.

On motion of **Councilmember Haddad**, seconded by **Councilmember Sarowar,** the following Proposed Local Law was enacted by the following vote:

Proposed Local Law Introductory No. "F" of 2026

A Local Law Establishing a Charter Revision Commission

DRAFT for Introduction, July 28, 2026

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Hudson, as follows:

Section 1. Findings and Legislative Intent.

The City of Hudson Common Council finds that elements of the Charter of the City of Hudson are obsolete, internally inconsistent, or fail to provide for governance of the City aligned with the needs and best interests of the City and its residents, businesses, and general welfare. Consequently, the Common Council enacts this local law to establish a charter revision commission to review and recommend replacement or amendment of the Charter of the City of

Hudson, as may be warranted upon a thorough, careful, and informed analysis of the current Charter and alternatives that may be forthcoming.

§ 2.

Charter revision commission established. A charter revision commission (hereinafter the "Commission") is hereby established by the Common Council of the City of Hudson pursuant to subdivision 2.(a) of section 36 of the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law ("M.H.R.L.").

A.

Number and method of appointment of members. The Commission shall consist of nine members, and a quorum shall consist of five members. Seven community members shall be appointed by the President of the City of Hudson Common Council in consultation with the Common Council. At least one resident from each Ward shall serve on the Commission. The Common Council President and the Majority Leader shall serve, ex officio, as the eighth and ninth members. Each of the nine members shall have equal voting powers in any matter put to a vote of the members of the Commission. The President of the Common Council shall serve as Chair, one member of the Commission shall be elected by the Commission to serve as Vice-Chair to preside in the absence of the Chair, and one as Secretary to record the proceedings of the Commission. The date of organization of the Commission shall be the date at which the first meeting of a quorum occurs. Any matter requiring the approval of the Commission shall obtain the affirmative vote of at least five members. In the case of vacancy caused by any reason, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the Common Council President in consultation with the Common Council.

B.

Qualifications for membership. Members of the Commission shall be deemed officers of the City of Hudson in accordance with the Opinion of the NYS Comptroller (3 Op. State Compt. 428, 1947) and shall be residents of the City of Hudson. In accordance with subdivision 6.(d) of section 36 of the NYS Municipal Home Rule Law, however, no person shall be disqualified to serve as a member of the Commission by reason of holding any other public office or employment, nor shall any such person forfeit any such office or employment by reason of such person's appointment to the Commission, notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, local law, ordinance, or city charter. Members shall take an oath of office pursuant to section 10 of the NYS Public Officers Law.

C.

Scope of work. The work of the Commission shall be governed by section 36 of the M.H.R.L. The Commission shall review the entire Charter of the City of Hudson, as directed by subdivision 5 of section 36 of the M.H.R.L. Notwithstanding such requirement, the Commission may leave part of the existing Charter unchanged and may propose amendments to parts.

D.

Members not to be compensated. As set forth in subdivision 6.(a) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L., members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

E.

Commission may appoint compensated employees and consultants and incur expenses. In accordance with subdivision 6.(b) and 6.(c) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L., the Commission shall appoint and may at its pleasure remove such employees and consultants as it shall require and fix their compensation. The City may appropriate such funds as are necessary for the expenses incurred by the Commission and, upon failure of the appropriate bodies to timely provide such funds, the Mayor may authorize the expenditures, which shall be a charge against the City.

F.

Meetings and hearings. The Commission is a public body and meetings of a quorum of the members of the Commission shall be public and conducted in accordance with Article 7 of the NYS Public Officers Law (Open Meetings Law). In addition to its ordinary meetings, the Commission shall conduct public hearings as it deems necessary, but in no case fewer than three public hearings. The Commission may take testimony, subpoena witnesses, and require the production of books, papers, and records. The Commission shall not conduct private hearings, except in executive session as may be authorized by section 105 of the Public Officers' Law, notwithstanding the authority set forth in subdivision 6.(f) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L. to conduct private hearings. Notwithstanding the above, Commission members in numbers less than a quorum may work or collaborate together to advance the work of the Commission. Written communications related to the work of the Commission shall be subject to Article 6 of the

NYS Public Officers Law (Freedom of Information Law), including the exemptions from disclosure provided therein.

G.

Publication and publicity. The Commission shall provide for timely publication and publicity in relation to the proposed new Charter or Charter amendments, in accordance with subdivision 5.(b) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L.

H.

Proposals to be submitted to a vote of the electors of the City of Hudson. In accordance with subdivision 5.(b) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L., the proposals recommended by the Commission shall be submitted to a vote of the electors of the City of Hudson at a general or special election held not earlier than 60 days after the filing of the Commission's proposals in the office of the City Clerk and not later than the next general election occurring after such 60-day period. The content of the question or questions to appear in the ballot for submission to the voters shall conform to the provisions of subdivision 5.(b) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L.

I.

Completion of work and duration of Commission. As set forth in subdivision 5.(b) of section 36 of the M.H.R.L., the proposed new Charter or Charter amendments shall be completed and filed in the office of the City Clerk in time for submission to the electors of the City not later than the second general election after the creation and organization of the Commission, and in accordance with applicable provisions of the NYS Election Law. The Commission and the terms of office of all members of the Commissions shall terminate on the day of the election at which the Commission's proposal or proposals are submitted to the electors of the City, or on the day of the second general election following the organization of the Commission if no ballot questions on proposals of the Commission have been submitted to the electors by such time.

J.

Section 36 of the NYS Municipal Home Rule Law to govern. Except as specifically set forth in subdivision F of § 2 of this local law with respect to private hearings, the Commission and its proceedings shall be governed by section 36 of the M.H.R.L. in its entirety, and the provisions of such section shall supersede any conflicting provision of law or local law, or provision of the Charter of the City of Hudson.

§ 3. Statement of Authority.

This law is enacted pursuant to the authority of section 36 and other provisions of the NY Municipal Home Rule Law, including but not limited to M.H.R.L. sections 10, 20 and 27.

§ 4. Effective Date.

This local law shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Ayes: President Morris, Councilmembers Haddad, Purnhagen, Rony, Sarowar, Foster, Roberts, Belton, Volo, Cousin, and Merante.
Nays: None.

President Morris said "now that you have approved in consultation with President in consultation. We will have a group discussion, but I would like to do that at the end." She said "there is one item in New Business that I would like to speak to and that is giving you an update on the budget."

New Business

President Morris said "some of you have been attending, I think many have you been watching things on your own time since the meetings are in the afternoons. We had a meeting yesterday continuation of our Revenue meeting. We are currently in the process of trying to finesse and be more accurate in our projections for revenue. That will continue, tomorrow we have another meeting and then when that is complete. The next step is to go back to expenditures to evaluate expenditures. My personal perspective on this, I am only one of three people on the BEA is that I would like to see property taxes holding to last year's rates, not increasing. As I see it rising taxes, if they do have to rise it should rise beyond what it was last year. Raising taxes has a displacement impact on renters and on property/ homeowners. It also has a negative impact on what kind of businesses can do business in the city because as the rents on Warren Street go up it basically freezes out business that are not very high dollar businesses. So, if that is needed it should be kept, in my perspective, should not go any further than last year's so also before any increases are considered I believe departments should identify any areas in the BEA, couple of you were there yesterday, BEA will be going back to the departments getting them to look at their expenditures and looking at areas where they, where reductions can occur and we are going to be requesting from them a breakout of their expenditures on things that are potentially within their control, not within their control. But it needs to go back now to the departments to look more closely at what they have asked for in expenditures. Also, in my opinion, the focus has got to give where we are on delivering essential services. That has to be our top priority." She said "November 9th is the date for the presentation

of the budget to the Council. So, I want you all to read Charter chapter 16 section 3, 4 and 5, that's the process for the BEA. On November 9th that will be presented to us, we need to schedule at least one Special Meeting of the Council so we can sit down as a group and go through what has been presented to us. We have the authority and if you read that section we have the authority to reduce any item in the budget and I'm going to get to that process in a moment but if we are going to make informed, deliberate decisions we need to make sure that we following along, we understand what's in budget and we are going to come prepared with a Special meeting this is something that Rich had suggested. So, for that reason I want all of you today is Tuesday, I would like all of you by COB Thursday, to provide me with your availability, take a look at the standard city calendar for the week of the 9th which is when we get it and the week of the 16th, so once its presented to us we have twenty days to take action. So, that means we need to move quickly once we get the presentation, it will also be presented to the public, but we should start our deliberations by looking at what is in the budget. Let's say we reduce line items in some area of the budget. The mayor has the authority to veto those changes if the mayor vetoes the action of the Common Council he or she must call for a meeting of the next weekday, the next business day. A meeting has to be called for, and meeting has to occur within 5 days action by the Common Council overriding the veto has to occur within 5 days. So, in the event that we do something, say we get it on the 9th we take some action on the, we have to do it on the 23rd or something like that we will have. and the mayor vetoes, then we will have 5 days when he will call a meeting next day, call for a meeting and then we will have the opportunity to respond to that veto if we need to do so. All of that process got lost last year. I just want to make sure we are lining this in the event we want to take action that we know all the steps but I really want you all to the Charter look at chapter 16 sections 3, 4, and 5. That's where all of this is laid out, so if you will give me your availability the week of the 9th and the week of the 16th and we will get that on the calendar."

Councilmember Foster stated he had a couple of questions on the budget process adding it might be helpful if Council President Morris suggest three or four different times.

President Morris stated just have me suggest sometimes and she agreed.

Councilmember Foster stated that he was very happy with the way the meetings were held very publicly but the files were not always easy to find.

President Morris stated all the department submissions are on-line, what you are probably having trouble getting is the running revenue file. She stated that it was a work in progress. Heather had sent a first pass but would do a second. You are correct that the revenue portion was not on-line.

Councilmember Merante stated it had been very helpful watching the budget.

Councilmember Cousin stated she wanted to acknowledge the work that was done on the Charter Commission. She said "a lot of people would agree the Charter needs lots of revisions and when you considered our amendments and I reached out to people in my Ward to see who would be interested in working on it not very many people wanted to put in the work to work on the Charter Commission so I just want to acknowledge that. Even being able to have somebody for your ward represented its great but there are not a lot of people who that are interested in doing the hands-on work."

Resident Ronald Kopnicki stated he saw no reason why the basic framework by which the committee is being constituted without discussing those people who have been solicited and/or volunteered could not be discussed in public. He stated that with regards to Furgary, it should have been subject to the open meetings law.

Resident Matt MaGee made a statement about the Open Meetings Law, and he felt that it was handled very poorly.

President Morris stated she would like to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the membership of Charter Commission.

Mr. Dow said "just to be clear you can go into Executive Session to discuss individual people."

President Morris stated that the Council had come out of Executive Session and no decisions had been made or taken during the Executive Session.

On motion of **Councilmember Sarowar**, seconded by **Councilmember Haddad** the meeting was adjourned.

Cherri Wrigley
Clerk