

THIRD DAY

THIRD COUNCILMANIC YEAR - SESSION OF 2020-2024

JOURNAL
CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE

February 6, 2023

Reverend Brandon McAfee of the Historic St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church led the Council in Prayer.

The President and members of the Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

SHOWCASE BALTIMORE

Falema Graham of Greenmount East Leadership Project delivered a presentation.

The City Council of Baltimore met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Nicholas J. Mosby, President, and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Burnett, Bullock, Porter, Costello, Stokes, Glover, Ramos

JOURNAL APPROVED

The Journal of January 23, 2023 was read and approved.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP

February 6, 2023

The Honorable Members of the City Council

Dear Council Members:

The members and leadership of the Committee on Legislative Investigations are as follows:

Committee on Legislative Investigations

Eric Costello, Chair

Sharon Green Middleton, Vice-Chair

Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer

Robert Stokes

Danielle McCray

I look forward to working with each member of the Committee in these new roles.

Sincerely,

Nick J. Mosby
President, Baltimore City Council

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

JESSICA BELL BROWN, as a member of the Public Art Commission, for a term expiring December 3, 2024, as a member from District 7.

ANDRE MAZELIN, as a member of the Public Art Commission, for a term expiring December 3, 2024, as a member from District 11.

EVAN RICHARDSON, as a member of the Public Art Commission, for a term expiring December 3, 2024, as a member from District 3.

INTRODUCTION AND READ FIRST TIME

The President laid before the City Council the following bills and Resolutions of the Mayor and City Council for first reading:

Bill No. 23-0347 - By Councilmember Dorsey, Burnett, Cohen, Ramos, Bullock, Porter, Conway, Torrence

An Ordinance creating the Department of Business Licensing and Consumer Protection as an independent City agency; providing for the leadership and staffing of the Department; establishing the Department's purpose, powers, and duties; creating the Commission on Business Licensing and Consumer Protection; providing for the membership of the Commission; establishing the purpose, powers, and duties of the Commission; transferring the administration of certain business licenses to the Department; repealing certain obsolete Boards; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to business licensing and consumer protection.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Rules and Legislative Oversight Committee.

Bill No. 23-0348 - By Councilmember Dorsey

An Ordinance changing the zoning for the property known as 4420 Loch Raven Boulevard (Block 3971A, Lot 58), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the R-4 Zoning District to the C-2 Zoning District.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

Bill No. 23-0349 - By Councilmember Dorsey

An Ordinance changing the zoning for the properties known as 1600 East Arlington Avenue and North Side Arlington Avenue North West Corner Hillen Road (Block 52670, Lots 076 and 076A), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the R-5 Zoning District to the C-2 Zoning District.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

Bill No. 23-0350 - By Councilmember McCray

An Ordinance changing the zoning for the property known as 420 North Haven Street (Block 6265A, Lot 011), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the I-2 Zoning District to the C-3 Zoning District.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

Bill No. 23-0351 - By Councilmember Torrence

An Ordinance changing the zoning for the properties known as 1801 to 1807 Bloomingdale Road (Block 2427, Lots 032 to 035) and 1800 to 1816 North Rosedale Street (Block 2427, Lots 001 to 009), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the R-8 Zoning District to the C-1 Zoning District.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

Bill No. 23-0352 - By Councilmember Conway, Ramos

An Ordinance changing the name of the playground and pavilion at Alhambra Park, located at 5200 Alhambra Ave, to the Phyllis Gilmore Playground and Pavilion.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

Bill No. 23-0353 - President Mosby and Councilmember Burnett

An Ordinance creating the Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission to distribute certain funds in accordance with State law; establishing the purpose and duties of the Commission; providing for the composition of the Commission; requiring certain reports; defining certain terms; requiring certain individuals file certain financial disclosures; and generally relating to the Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

Bill No. 23-0354 - City Council President (Administration - Department of Legislative Reference)

An Ordinance clarifying the role of the City Administrator, the Department of Law, and the Department of Legislative Reference in reviewing proposed regulations prior to public notice and comment; revising certain provisions regarding the initial submission period for a proposed regulation; revising certain provisions regarding Agency noncompliance with the Administrative Procedure Act; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the role of the City Administrator, the Department of Law, and the Department of Legislative Reference in the review and approval of proposed regulations.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Rules and Legislative Oversight Committee.

The President laid before the City Council the following Council Resolutions for first reading:

Bill No. 23-0154R - Councilmember Stokes

A Resolution inviting representatives from the Department of Public Works and the Office of the City Administrator to brief the City Council on the status of services provided by the Department of Public Works, including maintenance processes for water main breaks, the installation of new water meters, trash and recycling services, and service vehicles that require replacement, as well as position vacancies throughout the Department of Public Works, in addition to any mitigation strategies that may be employed to address these issues.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee.

Bill No. 23-0154R - By Councilmembers Cohen and Schleifer

Introduced
(Read and adopted)

Request for State Action – Increase the Salary Range for Sanitation Workers

FOR the purpose of expressing support for the essential workers of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 67 and Local 44 in their negotiation of a new contract for sanitation workers and calling on the Mayor and Department of Public Works to improve working conditions for sanitation workers, raise their pay, and match or surpass the starting salary of local private contractors.

Recitals

In the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic, through stay-at-home orders and during the highest rates of hospitalization, solid waste workers were still working in person. They showed up for Baltimore, continuing to deliver essential City services and maintaining quality of life for City residents. Now, we must show up for them.

In 2020, Councilmembers Cohen and Schleifer coordinated with the Department of Public Works and union representatives to increase the starting salary for a temporary sanitation worker from \$11 to \$16 an hour and to increase the starting salary for a full-time sanitation worker from \$15 to \$20 an hour.

Despite these efforts, there continued to be a sustained high rate of vacancy in these positions, demonstrating that the new entry rates are not enough to retain staff long-term.

In its January 2022 report on route optimization in Baltimore City, Rubicon Technologies called for an additional 48 Commercial Drivers License (CDL) drivers (an increase of 72% from current staffing levels) and an additional 96 sanitation workers to be added to Baltimore City's workforce.

CDL drivers are crucial to the waste collection process; however, City CDL driver salaries are not competitive with the private sector. A current Baltimore City job posting for a Department of Public Works CDL Driver II has a minimum starting salary of \$44,760, which corresponds to approximately \$22.56 per hour. There are currently private sector job postings in the Baltimore area for \$24.50 per hour for non-CDL drivers and \$30 per hour for CDL drivers. Pay for CDL drivers must be competitive, and the City must do more to communicate the benefits of public-sector employment to job seekers.

Baltimore City has created strong incentives to recruit more police officers, including a \$5,000 signing bonus, a \$6,000 grant towards student loans, and a housing allowance for relocation of up to \$12,000. Similar incentives are needed to entice CDL drivers and sanitation workers to join our City force.

Baltimore City is required by City Code Article 23 § 1-4 {"Public works to provide sanitation services"} to provide weekly recycling pickup and its ability to do so is hampered by the City's sustained high vacancy rate among sanitation workers. Sanitation workers continue to have opportunities for higher earnings with employment by private sector waste disposal contractors, and existing infrastructure and processes within the control of the Department of Public Works limit Baltimore City's ability to retain sanitation workers.

Baltimore City solid waste collection should continue to be performed by public sector, union workers. The current memorandum of understanding between AFSCME Council 67 and Local 44 and the City of Baltimore ends after fiscal year 2023. Baltimore City needs to retain its current workers and attract 48 additional CDL drivers and 96 additional laborers in order to deliver high quality sanitation services to citizens and to resume weekly recycling collection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council expresses its support for the workers of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 67 and Local 44 in their negotiation of a new contract for sanitation workers and calls on the Mayor and Department of Public Works to improve working conditions for sanitation workers, raise their pay, and match or surpass the starting salary of local private contractors.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Director of the Department of Public Works, the Labor Commissioner, the Director of the Department of Human Resources, Glenard S. Middleton, Sr., the AFSCME Executive Director of Maryland Council 67 and President of Maryland Public Employees, Local 44, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

Councilmember Cohen made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the Rules be suspended.

There being no objection, the President declared that the Rules were suspended.

Then Councilmember Cohen made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the Resolution be adopted.

The roll was called on the motion, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Torrence, Burnett, Bullock, Porter, Costello, Stokes, Glover, Ramos - Total 14.

Nays - 0.

Abstain - Middleton - 1.

The President declared the Resolution "Adopted".

Bill No. 23-0156R - By Councilmember Burnett

Introduced
(Read and adopted)

Request for State Action - Emergency Rental Assistance

FOR the purpose of calling upon the Governor and Maryland General Assembly to allocate \$175 million in fiscal year 2024 to help an estimated 17,000 Maryland families avoid eviction.

WHEREAS, economic instability in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and rampant rent inflation continue to push tens of thousands of low-income households to the brink of homelessness.

WHEREAS, evictions in Baltimore City, alone, this past September and November surpassed the 2019 tallies for those months and are rapidly rising to pre-pandemic levels throughout the State.

WHEREAS, emergency rental assistance has helped over 100,000 Maryland households, including more than 13,000 households in Baltimore City, avoid eviction during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS, Baltimore City and jurisdictions throughout Maryland are facing a funding cliff in March and April of 2023 that will end emergency rental assistance throughout the State.

WHEREAS, eviction prevention furthers gender and racial equity; of the households that avoided eviction with help from Maryland’s current emergency rental assistance program, 70% were woman-led and 74% were Black-led. Based on trends in eviction demographics, these families will likely be subject to eviction at much higher rates than other families if this program ends.

WHEREAS, 52% of households facing eviction in Maryland are families with children.

WHEREAS, anyone can find themselves temporarily unable to pay the rent due to a medical emergency, car accident, funeral, or job loss, and the past 2 pandemic years have shown that such economic setbacks do not have to become catastrophic events that result in eviction.

WHEREAS, with an allocation of State funds for emergency rental assistance, right to counsel in evictions, and housing stability services, Maryland can create a more equitable, sustainable housing economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, that the Baltimore City Council calls upon the Governor and Maryland General Assembly to allocate \$175 million in fiscal year 2024 to help an estimated 17,000 Maryland families avoid eviction.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the Honorable Chairs and members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

Councilmember ? made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the Rules be suspended.

There being no objection, the President declared that the Rules were suspended.

Then Councilmember Burnett made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the Resolution be adopted.

The roll was called on the motion, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Burnett, Bullock, Porter, Costello, Stokes, Glover, Ramos - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Resolution “Adopted”.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CEREMONIAL RESOLUTIONS NO. 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, AND 1225 ADOPTED UNDER RULE 3-9.

The resolutions were read.

The roll was called on the adoption of the resolutions, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Conway, Schleifer, Middleton, Torrence, Burnett, Bullock, Porter, Costello, Stokes, Glover, Ramos - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the resolutions adopted under Rule 3-9.

Ceremonial Resolutions will be found at the end of the Journal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**BILL NO. 22-0284 REPORTED FAVORABLY
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Middleton, for the Economic and Community Development Committee, reported Bill No. 22-0284 favorably.

An Ordinance designating the area located within certain boundaries as the Sarah Ann Street Historic District.

Favorable report adopted.

The bill was read the second time and ordered printed for third reading.

**BILL NO. 22-0135R REPORTED FAVORABLY
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Middleton, for the Economic and Community Development Committee, reported Bill No. 22-0135 favorably.

An Ordinance inviting representatives from the Department of Housing and Community Development Code Enforcement Division and the Department of Planning Division of Community Planning and Revitalization to provide: (i) data detailing code violations at

non-residential properties, including unoccupied, vacant, and abandoned structures, (ii) a review of licensing and registration requirements for unoccupied, vacant, and abandoned non-residential properties, (iii) data demonstrating whether unoccupied, vacant, and abandoned non-residential properties are complying with City Code registration requirements; and (iv) provide guidance about how to address long-term vacancies at non-residential properties

Favorable report adopted.

The bill was read the second time and ordered printed for third reading.

**BILL NO. 22-0266 REPORTED FAVORABLY
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Costello, for the Ways and Means Committee, reported Bill No. 22-0266 favorably.

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property that is located at 1200 North Freemont Avenue (Block 0046; Lot 001) and is no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

Favorable report adopted.

The bill was read the second time and ordered printed for third reading.

**BILL NO. 22-0268 REPORTED FAVORABLY
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Costello, for the Ways and Means Committee, reported Bill No. 22-0268 favorably.

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property that is located at 800 Poplar Grove Street (Block 2471; Lot 001) and is no longer needed for public use; and providing for a special effective date.

Favorable report adopted.

The bill was read the second time and ordered printed for third reading.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 23-0330**

Councilmember Costello made a motion, duly seconded, to suspend Rules 10-2 and 10-3 in order to have an early hearing on Bill No. 23-0330.

The motion carried without exception, and the President declared the rules suspended with regard to the bill. Then Councilmember Costello announced a hearing date for the bill.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 23-0332**

Councilmember Costello made a motion, duly seconded, to suspend Rules 10-2 and 10-3 in order to have an early hearing on Bill No. 23-0332.

The motion carried without exception, and the President declared the rules suspended with regard to the bill. Then Councilmember Costello announced a hearing date for the bill.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 23-0333**

Councilmember Costello made a motion, duly seconded, to suspend Rules 10-2 and 10-3 in order to have an early hearing on Bill No. 23-0333.

The motion carried without exception, and the President declared the rules suspended with regard to the bill. Then Councilmember Costello announced a hearing date for the bill.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 23-0334**

Councilmember Costello made a motion, duly seconded, to suspend Rules 10-2 and 10-3 in order to have an early hearing on Bill No. 23-0334.

The motion carried without exception, and the President declared the rules suspended with regard to the bill. Then Councilmember Costello announced a hearing date for the bill.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 23-0340**

Councilmember Costello made a motion, duly seconded, to suspend Rules 10-2 and 10-3 in order to have an early hearing on Bill No. 23-0340.

The motion carried without exception, and the President declared the rules suspended with regard to the bill. Then Councilmember Costello announced a hearing date for the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Middleton, duly seconded, the City Council adjourned to meet on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Consent Calendar

CR 1216 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution congratulating Genevieve Matthews on your 100 year milestone and being a pillar in our community and living life to the fullest while supporting city, community, and family.

CR 1217 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution congratulating Derick S. Williamson on your retirement from the City of Baltimore after 31 years of dedicated service.

CR 1218 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution congratulating Delroy Matthews on 34 years of service to the City of Baltimore.

CR 1219 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution to the Family of Dr. Martina Hales, June 25, 1948 - January 15, 2023.

CR 1220 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution to the Family of Viola Watts Milbourne, March 16, 1924 - January 14, 2023.

CR 1221 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution on the death of Patricia D. Coley, November 13, 1950 - January 19, 2023.

CR 1222 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution congratulating Reverend Willie and Geraldine Chambers on your 80th Wedding Anniversary.

CR 1223 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution congratulating Odette Ramos on your fabulous 50th Birthday and all you mean to the citizens of the 14th District and the City of Baltimore.

CR 1224 President Mosby, All Members,

A Baltimore City Resolution to the Family of Conway Gaddy, April 5, 1934 - January 17, 2023.

CR 1225 President Mosby, All Members,

**A Baltimore City Resolution to the Family of Ms. Cardova Ethel Wright, February 9, 1927 -
January 18, 2023.**