

ELEVENTH DAY

FOURTH COUNCILMANIC YEAR - SESSION OF 2016-2020

JOURNAL
CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE

May 11, 2020

Rabbi Ariana Katz led the Council in Prayer.

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

SHOWCASE BALTIMORE

Margaret K. Henn, Esquire, of the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, delivered a presentation.

The City Council of Baltimore met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Brandon M. Scott, President, and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke

JOURNAL APPROVED

The Journal of April 27, 2020 was read and approved.

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. 20-0527 - By the Council President (The Administration):

An Ordinance providing the appropriations estimated to be needed by each agency of the City of Baltimore for operating programs and capital projects during the Fiscal 2021 year.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Bill No. 20-0528 - By the Council President (The Administration):

An Ordinance providing a tax for the use of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; providing for estimated billings pursuant to State law; and setting the semiannual payment service charge for that period.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Bill No. 20-0529 - By the Council President (The Administration):

An Ordinance requiring the Director of Finance to withhold from tax sale certain real property designated by the Board of Estimates for foreclosure and sale under a certain process; authorizing the Mayor and City Council acting by and through the Department of Housing and Community Development to initiate an in rem foreclosure and sale of certain real property for delinquent taxes; authorizing the Mayor and City Council to enact certain laws authorizing in rem foreclosure and sale of certain real property; authorizing the Mayor and City Council acting by and through the Department of Housing and Community Development to commence an in rem foreclosure action; prohibiting commencing an in rem foreclosure action until tax on real property has been delinquent for a certain period and the right to appeal a certain notice has tolled; requiring certain taxes to be included in the foreclosure action; requiring any foreclosure action under this subtitle be filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and that notice and a copy of the complaint be sent to each interested party within a certain period of time and in a certain manner; requiring the complaint for an in rem foreclosure to include certain information; allowing the complaint for an in rem foreclosure to be amended for certain purposes; providing that an interested party has a certain right to cure certain delinquent taxes and liens on the real property under certain circumstances; requiring a hearing on the in rem foreclosure complaint to be conducted at a certain time; providing that an interested party has the right to be heard at the hearing; requiring the court to enter a certain judgment on a certain finding; requiring the judgment to be recorded in certain land records; providing that title acquired in a certain foreclosure proceeding shall be a certain absolute or fee simple title except under certain circumstances; providing that a judgment in an action under this subtitle is binding and conclusive, regardless of legal disability, on certain persons; defining certain terms; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to in rem foreclosure and sale of tax delinquent vacant and abandoned property.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the City Solicitor, Department of Planning, Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Real Estate, Department of Finance, Board of Estimates, Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee.

Bill No. 20-0530 - By Councilmember Dorsey:

An Ordinance temporarily setting the transfer tax on certain foreclosed properties in Baltimore City at 100% of the property's taxable basis; providing for a special effective date; and providing for an termination date.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Department of Real Estate, Department of Finance, Health Department, Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee.

Bill No. 20-0531 - By Councilmember Middleton (by request):

An Ordinance changing the zoning for the property known as 3006 Boarman Avenue (Block 3185, Lot 48), as outlined in red on the accompanying plat, from the I-2 Zoning District to the TOD-2 Zoning District, and for changing the zoning for the properties known as 2926 Boarman Avenue (Block 3185, Lot 51), 2928 Boarman Avenue (Block 3185, Lot 50), and Block 3185, Lot 49, as outlined in blue on the accompanying plat, from the R-7 Zoning District to the TOD-2 Zoning District; and providing for a special effective date.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the City Solicitor, Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, Planning Commission, Department of Housing and Community Development, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, Baltimore City Parking Authority Board, Land Use Committee.

Bill No. 20-0532 - By President Scott, Councilmembers Dorsey, Middleton, Bullock, Clarke, Burnett, Henry, Stokes, Cohen, Costello, Schleifer, Sneed:

An Ordinance requiring the Department of Transportation to provide additional street space to pedestrians and cyclists during the pendency of certain temporary spacing orders; requiring that the provision of additional street space be distributed equitably through the City; setting forth certain factors for the Department to consider when providing additional street space; providing for the expiration of additional street space requirements; requiring certain reports; defining certain terms; and providing for a special effective date.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the City Solicitor, Department of Transportation, Transportation Committee.

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

Bill No. 20-0217R - By Councilmembers Stokes, Middleton, Bullock, Clarke, President Scott, Councilmembers Burnett, Pinkett, Henry:

A Resolution inviting the Housing Authority of Baltimore City and firms that co-own affordable housing with the Authority, under the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program, as well as the managers of multi-family housing units regulated by HUD, to report to the City Council regarding how common areas of the buildings in these programs are sanitized during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Department of Housing and Community Development, Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Department of General Services, Health Committee.

Bill 20-0218R - By Councilmembers Stokes, Dorsey, Middleton, Clarke, President Scott, Councilmembers Burnett, Cohen, Henry, Bullock, Pinkett:

A Resolution recognizing systemic racism as a public health crisis.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Mayor's Office, Office of Equity and Civil Rights, Department of Transportation, Baltimore City Public School System, State's Attorney, Minority and Women's Business and Opportunity Office, Department of Housing and Community Development, City Solicitor, Department of Planning, Police Department, Department of Recreation and Parks, Equity and Structure Committee.

Bill No. 20-0219R - By Councilmembers Stokes, Middleton, Bullock, Clarke, Burnett, President Scott, Councilmembers Pinkett, Henry, Cohen, Sneed, Costello, Dorsey:

Introduced: May 11, 2020
(Read and adopted)

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Teacher Appreciation Week 2020

FOR the purpose of recognizing the week of May 4 through May 8 as Teacher Appreciation Week and celebrating all of Baltimore City's hardworking teachers who have continued to educate our children during this crisis.

Recitals

WHEREAS, Teacher Appreciation Week this year is May 4 through May 8;

WHEREAS, Teachers in Baltimore City care for, educate, and serve as role models for our children;

WHEREAS, During this pandemic, teachers have been working overtime to adjust their syllabi and teaching techniques to serve our children while society practices social distancing; and

WHEREAS, We are so grateful for all that teachers are doing for their students during this stressful and confusing time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council recognizes the week of May 4 through May 8 as Teacher Appreciation week and celebrates all of Baltimore City's hardworking teachers who have continued to educate our children during this crisis.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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

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

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Rules "Suspended".

Then Councilmember Stokes 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, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Resolution "Adopted".

Bill 20-0220R - By Councilmembers Stokes, Middleton, Bullock, Clarke, President Scott, Councilmembers Burnett, Henry, Cohen, Pinkett, Dorsey:

A Resolution requesting that the Department of General Services provide the City Council with an update on how employees of DGS have been keeping City-owned buildings clean during the COVID-19 pandemic and post information about cleaning schedules in these buildings.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Department of General Services, Mayor's Office, Health Department, Health Committee.

Bill No. 20-0221R - By Councilmembers Stokes, Middleton, Bullock, Clarke, President Scott, Councilmembers Burnett, Henry, Cohen, Pinkett:

Introduced: May 11, 2020
(Read and adopted)

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

National Nurses Week 2020

FOR the purpose of recognizing National Nurses Week 2020 and acknowledging the dedication and contributions of nurses everywhere, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recitals

WHEREAS, May 6 through May 12 each year is National Nurses Week;

WHEREAS, Nurses are a vital part of health care system;

WHEREAS, Nurses frequently are the primary one-on-one caretakers of patients in the health care system and, in addition to providing medical care, give patients emotional support, hope for recovery, and comfort in their last days;

WHEREAS, Nurses work grueling hours and perform demanding physical tasks while caring for patients;

WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, nurses are putting their lives on the line by caring for the sick members of society;

WHEREAS, Many nurses are also responsible for being the primary caregivers for their families during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The Baltimore City Council salutes the sacrifice nurses are making during this pandemic by continuing to care for our ill, while risking their own health and possibly the health of their families, and calls on all Baltimore City residents to celebrate the bravery of nurses during this trying time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council recognizes National Nurses Week 2020 and acknowledges the dedication and contributions of nurses everywhere, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Health Commissioner, and the Mayors Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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

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

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Rules "Suspended".

Then Councilmember Stokes 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, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Resolution "Adopted".

Bill No. 20-0222R - By Councilmembers Clarke, Middleton, Bullock, President Scott, Councilmembers Stokes, Cohen, Pinkett, Burnett, Henry, Sneed, Dorsey:

Introduced: May 11, 2020
(Read and adopted)

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Let's Get the Word Out – Making Your Mail-In Vote Count

FOR the purpose of calling on the City of Baltimore, the League of Women Voters, and the ACLU of Maryland to publicize important facts to avoid confusion and to make every vote count on June 2, 2020 (Primary Election Day).

Recitals

On June 2, 2020, Baltimoreans will be casting their primary ballots for their choice for Mayor, City Council President, Comptroller, City Councilmember, and more. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this primary election was re-scheduled from April 28, 2020 and will now be conducted mainly through mail-in vote.

Because of this change, there are several important things for Baltimoreans to know in order to make their vote count. First, due to printing issues at the State level, the ballots will contain the old primary date, but it is still a valid ballot for June 2, 2020! Second, a ballot is not valid and will not be counted, unless, under the oath language on the return envelope, the voter includes their signature, their printed name, and the date in which they are signing. Further, the ballot itself needs to be completed in black pen, and the envelope needs to be properly sealed – not licked!

Mail-in voting is novel concept to many Baltimoreans, and it is critical that we do everything we can to prevent confusion and ensure that every intended vote is a counted vote. This is a critically important election, and we cannot allow anyone to get disenfranchised. Let's get the word out.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council calls on the City of Baltimore, the League of Women Voters, and the ACLU of Maryland to publicize important facts to avoid confusion and to make every vote count on June 2, 2020 (Primary Election Day).

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Mayor, the Election Director for the Baltimore City Board of Elections, the League of Women's Voters of Baltimore City, the ACLU of Maryland, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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

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

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Rules “Suspended”.

Then Councilmember Clarke 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, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Resolution “Adopted”.

Bill No. 20-0223R - By Councilmember Cohen (by request):

A Resolution providing the required approval under Md. Code Ann., Alc. Bev. § 12-902.1(c)(4) to allow the license holder holding a valid Class B-D-7 Beer, Wine, and Liquor License issued for use at 3607 Fleet Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21224 to apply to the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City to exchange their Class B-D-7 Beer, Wine, and Liquor License for a Class A-7 Beer, Wine, and Liquor License for use at 5601 Eastern Avenue k/a 5701A Fleet Street.

The bill was read the first time and referred to the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City, Judiciary Committee.

Bill No. 20-0224R - By President Scott, Councilmembers Dorsey, Middleton, Bullock, Sneed, Clarke, Pinkett, Burnett, Henry, Schleifer, Cohen, McCray, Stokes, Costello, Reisinger:

Introduced: May 11, 2020
(Read and Adopted)

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Request for State Action – Override Veto on House Bill 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future - Implementation

FOR the purpose of calling on the Maryland General Assembly to override the Governor’s veto and pass House Bill 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future - Implementation – that would protect the educational rights and the future of all of Maryland’s students.

Recitals

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article VIII of the Maryland Constitution requires the General Assembly to establish a "thorough and efficient" system of free public schools;

WHEREAS, The courts have interpreted this clause to mean that the right to public education is measured by "contemporary" standards in order "to equip a child for his [or her] role as a citizen and as a competitor in the labor market." *Hornbeck v. Somerset Cty. Bd. of Educ.*, 295 Md. 597, 638 (1983);

WHEREAS, The Kirwan Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education is an initiative that developed funding and policy reforms for Maryland schools;

WHEREAS, The Commission made recommendations to the Maryland General Assembly for improving education in Maryland to prepare students "to meet the challenges of a changing global economy, to meet the State's workforce needs, to be prepared for post-secondary education and the workforce, and to be successful citizens in the 21st century.";

WHEREAS, Two years ago, a report to the Kirwan Commission documented that City schools need an additional \$358 million annually to ensure an adequate education for Baltimore's students;

WHEREAS, The State's own Department of Legislative Services found that elimination of the inflation factor from the funding formula has resulted in the under-funding of City schools by \$290 million per year;

WHEREAS, Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public and private schools are closed;

WHEREAS, The devastation of COVID-19 has wreaked further havoc on Baltimore City students' education, leaving many without the resources to continue their studies remotely;

WHEREAS, Without the promise of Kirwan's funding, these students will once again be left to pick up the pieces of a broken system;

WHEREAS, Congress has given Maryland over \$2 billion for COVID-19 related expenses;

WHEREAS, The Council anticipates that Congress will supply more funding to offset revenue losses as a result of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, House Bill 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Implementation – passed the House of Delegates with a vote of 96-38 and the Senate with a vote of 37-9; the votes were notably both veto-proof majorities; and

WHEREAS, The Governor vetoed the bill on May 7, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council calls on the Maryland General Assembly to override the Governor’s veto and pass House Bill 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future - Implementation – that would protect the educational rights and the future of all of Maryland’s students.

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

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

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

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Rules “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, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Resolution “Adopted”.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION NO. 3017 ADOPTED UNDER RULE 3-9.

The resolution was read.

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

Journal of the City Council

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - 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. 20-0521 REPORTED FAVORABLY, WITH AMENDMENTS,
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Costello, for the Budget and Appropriations Committee, reported Bill No. 20-0521 favorably, with amendments.

An Ordinance providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$37,600 to the Sheriff – Service 882 (Deputy Sheriff Enforcement), to provide funding to improve the recruitment and retention of the Sheriff’s court security officers; and providing for a special effective date.

Committee Amendments to City Council Bill No. 20-0521

Amendment No. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “**General**” and substitute “**State**”; and, on the same page, in lines 4 and 23, strike “General” and substitute “**State**”.

The amendments were read and adopted.

Favorable report, as amended, adopted.

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

**BILL NO. 19-0379, LISTED ON TONIGHT’S PRINTED AGENDA,
RETURNED TO COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Henry, for the Equity and Structure Committee, made a motion, which was seconded, to return Bill No. 19-0379 to the Committee. The motion was approved.

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council authorizing the City Council to amend the Ordinance of Estimates to increase items of appropriation or add items for new purposes, subject

to certain limitations; deleting the requirement that supplementary appropriations be recommended by the Board of Estimates; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related provisions; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

**BILL NO. 19-0381 REPORTED FAVORABLY, WITH AMENDMENTS,
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Henry, for the Equity and Structure Committee, reported Bill No. 19-0381 favorably, with amendments.

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council providing for the removal from office by the City Council of certain City elected officials under certain circumstances; expanding the potential individuals or entities entitled to prefer charges for consideration of removal from office; conforming and clarifying related provisions; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

Committee Amendments to City Council Bill No. 19-0381

Amendment No. 1

On page 2, in line 17, insert a comma after “office”; and, on that same page, in line 18, after the second comma, insert “A VERIFIED PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST 20% OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS IN BALTIMORE CITY,”.

Amendment No. 2

On page 2, in line 33, after “INVESTIGATIONS”, insert “, A VERIFIED PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST 20% OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS IN BALTIMORE CITY,”.

Amendment No. 3

On page 3, in line 16, after the comma, insert “A VERIFIED PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST 20% OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS IN BALTIMORE CITY,”.

The amendments were read and adopted, with Councilmembers McCray and Costello voting Nay.

Favorable report, as amended, adopted, with Councilmembers McCray and Costello voting Nay.

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

**BILL NO. 20-0194R REPORTED FAVORABLY, WITH AMENDMENTS,
ADOPTED, AND RETURNED TO COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Burnett, for the Health Committee, reported Bill No. 20-0194R favorably, with amendments.

A Resolution inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, the Baltimore Police Department, the Baltimore City Fire Department, and the Baltimore City Department of Finance to brief the City Council on Baltimore's strategic response to the Wuhan coronavirus.

Committee Amendments to City Council Bill No. 20-0194R

Amendment No. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike "**Wuhan**"; and, on that same page, in lines 6 and 28, strike "Wuhan".

The amendments were read and adopted.

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Informational Hearing - Baltimore's Strategic Response to the ~~Wuhan~~ Coronavirus

FOR the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, the Baltimore Police Department, the Baltimore City Fire Department, and the Baltimore City Department of Finance to brief the City Council on Baltimore's strategic response to the ~~Wuhan~~ coronavirus.

Recitals

Recently, a new strain of coronavirus was detected in thousands of people worldwide, prompting the World Health Organization to declare a "public health emergency of international concern." Similarly, the United States federal government has declared the coronavirus outbreak a public health emergency. This new strain of coronavirus, also referred to as 2019-nCoV, is a strain that has not been previously found in humans and has led to nearly 500 deaths around the world as of last week.

Most people who were first diagnosed with this infection reported exposure to a large seafood and live animal market in Wuhan, China. Recently, people with this infection did not report contact with this market. Thus, person-to-person spread is occurring, and recently at least one individual has been diagnosed in Maryland.

The risk of a Baltimorean contracting coronavirus is generally low – contracting the flu remains a larger threat. However, the Baltimore City Council, on behalf of our constituents, is seeking to assess Baltimore’s preparedness both now and in the future should the coronavirus fail to be contained or cured. Specifically, the Council is interested in the level of coordination that is in place with our state and federal partners as well as the City’s fiscal readiness for any public health catastrophe.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Council invites representatives from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Mayor’s Office of Emergency Management, the Baltimore Police Department, the Baltimore City Fire Department, and the Baltimore City Department of Finance to brief the City Council on Baltimore’s strategic response to the ~~Wuhan~~ coronavirus.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Baltimore City Commissioner of Health, the Baltimore City Police Commissioner, the Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Emergency Management, the Director of Finance, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the Baltimore City Council.

Favorable report, as amended adopted.

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

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The President declared the Resolution adopted.

Then Councilmember Burnett made a motion, which was seconded, to return the bill to Committee. The motion was approved.

**BILL NO. 20-0526 REPORTED FAVORABLY, AMENDED,
AND PLACED ON THIRD READING TODAY**

Councilmember Reisinger, for the Land Use Committee, reported Bill No. 20-0526 favorably, with amendments.

An Ordinance prohibiting the increase of rent during and after certain declared emergencies; prohibiting certain notices to tenants; requiring certain notices to tenants; prohibiting certain late fees; defining certain terms; providing for a date of termination of the prohibitions; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to protecting Baltimore City tenants.

Committee Amendments to City Council Bill No. 20-0526

Amendment No. 1

On page 1, in line 2, delete “**Renter Relief**” and substitute “**Rent Increase Protection**”.

Amendment No. 2

On page 1, at the beginning of line 6, insert “providing that an environmental citation and certain fines may be issued for violations of these provisions;”; and, on that same page, in line 10, after “8-4”, insert “and 8-7”; and, on that same page, after line 12, insert:

“BY repealing and re-ordaining current
Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal
Section 8-5
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)”;

and, on that same page, after line 17, insert:

“BY repealing and re-ordaining
Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
Section 40-14(e)(1)
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)”;

and, on page 3, in lines 8 and 9, strike “the provisions of this law” and substitute “§ 8-2 AND § 8-3 OF THIS SUBTITLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW”; and, on that same page, after line 9, insert:

§ 8-7. ENFORCEMENT BY CITATION.**(A) IN GENERAL.**

THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE ENFORCED BY ISSUANCE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL CITATION UNDER CITY CODE ARTICLE 1, SUBTITLE 40 {“ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD”}.

(B) PROCESS NOT EXCLUSIVE.

THE ISSUANCE OF A CITATION TO ENFORCE THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT PRECLUDE PURSUING ANY OTHER CIVIL OR CRIMINAL REMEDY OR ENFORCEMENT ACTION AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

(C) EACH DAY A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

EACH DAY A VIOLATION CONTINUES IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

Baltimore City Code

Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies

Subtitle 40. Environmental Control Board

§ 40-14. Violations to which subtitle applies.

(e) Provisions and penalties enumerated.

(1) Article 13. Housing and Urban Renewal

.....

SUBTITLE 8: RENT INCREASES

\$1,000”.

The amendments were read and adopted, with Councilmembers Burnett and Clarke Passing.

Then Councilmember Reisinger offered 2 sets of Floor amendments.

Amendments to City Council Bill No. 20-0526

Amendment No. 1 {HABC exemption}

On page 2, in line 8, after the period, insert “FURTHER, NOTHING IN THIS SECTION WITH RESPECT TO AN INCREASE IN THE TENANT’S PORTION OF A RENTAL FEE APPLIES TO ANY PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY WHO MUST COMPLY WITH FEDERAL LAWS, REGULATIONS, OR OTHER FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS TO DETERMINE A TENANT’S RENTAL FEE.”.

Amendment No. 2 3 {Clarification regarding late fees}

On page 2, in line 7, after “TENANTS”, insert “DURING AN EMERGENCY”; and, on that same page, strike lines 26 through 28 in their entirety and substitute:

“(1) “LATE FEE” DEFINED.

(1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “LATE FEE” MEANS ANY ADDITIONAL CHARGE OR FEE IMPOSED BECAUSE A RENTAL FEE IS NOT MADE WHEN THE RENTAL FEE IS DUE UNDER THE TERMS OF A LEASE.

(II) "LATE FEE" INCLUDES A FEE IMPOSED:(A) AS A FLAT RATE;(B) AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE RENTAL FEE DUE; OR(C) IN ANY OTHER TERMS.(2) IN GENERAL.

A LANDLORD MAY NOT CHARGE, ASSESS, OR OTHERWISE SEEK TO COLLECT A LATE FEE FROM A TENANT FOR THE NONPAYMENT OR THE LATE PAYMENT OF A RENTAL FEE THAT COMES DUE DURING AN EMERGENCY."

Amendment No. 1

On page 1, in line 5, strike "providing for a date of termination of the prohibitions;"; and, on that same page, in line 6, after the semi-colon, insert "providing for retroactive application of certain provisions"; and, on page 3, strike lines 13 through 17 and substitute:

"SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That if any provision of this Ordinance or the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the invalidity does not affect any other provision or any other application of this Ordinance, and for this purpose the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That City Code Article 13, § 8-4 {"Rent increases barred – during states of emergency"}, as enacted by this Ordinance, is effective retroactively from March 5, 2020.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That, notwithstanding Section 4 of this Ordinance, City Code Article 13, § 8-7 {"Enforcement by citation"} as enacted by this Ordinance and City Code Article 1, § 40-14(e)(1) as amended by this Ordinance take effect on the date of enactment and may only be applied to violations of this Ordinance committed after the date of its enactment."

The amendments were read and adopted, with Councilmembers Burnett and Clarke Passing.

Favorable report, as amended, adopted, with Councilmembers Burnett and Clarke Passing.

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

Councilmember Reisinger made a motion, which was duly seconded, to place Bill No. 20-0526 on third reading today.

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

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed - Total 13.

Nays - 0.

Pass - Councilmembers Burnett, Clarke - Total 2.

The President declared that three fourths of all the members-elect, voting in the affirmative, Article 3, Section 14 of the Charter having been complied with, the bill was placed on third reading file.

**BILL NO.20-0503 REPORTED FAVORABLY
AND ORDERED PRINTED FOR THIRD READING**

Councilmember Middleton, for the Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee, reported Bill No. 20-0503 favorably.

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council approving the submission of an application from the University of Maryland at Baltimore, a “qualified institution” under the State’s Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise Zone (“RISE Zone”) Program; approving and joining in the application for designation of a RISE Zone along West Baltimore Street identified as:

- Ward 04, Section 060, Block 0626, Lots 026, 029, 035, 036, 037, 038, 039, 040, 041, 042, 043, 052, 053, 053A, 053B, 053C, 053D, and 053E
- Ward 18, Section 090, Block 0220, Lot 001M
- Ward 18, Section 100, Block 0203, Lots 110, 116, 117, and 199
- Ward 18, Section 100, Block 0202, Lots 014, 016, 017, 019, 020, 021, 022, 023, 024, 024A, 024B, 025, 026, 027, 028, and 076B
- Ward 18, Section 100, Block 0219, Lots 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014, 016, 017, 018, 019, 020, 021, 022, 023, 024, 025, 026, 027, 028, 030, 031, 032, 033, 034, 035, 036, 037, 038, 039, 040, 041, 042, 043, 044, 045, and 046

(the “Property”); granting an enhanced local property tax credit for the Property; and providing for a special effective date.

Favorable report adopted, with Councilmember Costello Passing.

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

THIRD READING TODAY

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 20-0526 - An Ordinance prohibiting the increase of rent during and after certain declared emergencies; prohibiting certain notices to tenants; requiring certain notices to tenants; prohibiting certain late fees; defining certain terms; ~~providing for a date of termination of the prohibitions;~~ providing that an environmental citation and certain fines may be issued for violations of these provisions; providing for a special effective date; providing for retroactive application of certain provisions; and generally relating to protecting Baltimore City tenants.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed - Total 13.

Nays - 0.

Pass - Councilmembers Burnett, Clarke - Total 2.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

THIRD READING

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 19-0441 - A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council requiring a Charter Review Commission be appointed at least once every 10 years to review the City Charter and make recommendations for necessary deletions, additions, or revisions; providing for the term of the Commission; setting forth the manner of the Commission's appointment; providing for the Commission's duties; requiring that the Commission be dissolved on the completion of its duties; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 14.

Nays - Councilmember Costello - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 19-0449 - An Ordinance prohibiting the sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices, accessories, and related products by a retail goods establishment that is a neighborhood commercial establishment.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 19-0465 - An Ordinance creating a community benefits district for Port Covington; specifying the boundaries of the district; creating a community benefits district management authority and providing for its rights, duties, and powers; providing for the selection and composition of the Authority's Board of Directors; designating the initial interim board of the authority and providing for the selection and approval of a full board, including authority to establish up to three classes of board memberships with certain approval rights granted to each class; creating the administrator for the authority and approving a potential administrator; mandating the financial responsibilities of the Authority and the City in conjunction with the operation of the district; providing for a supplemental tax to be collected for the Authority; authorizing the creation of separate classes and subclasses of property for the purpose of establishing different rates of supplemental tax; authorizing the creation of credits to facilitate a diverse residential mix; incorporating the assessment, collection and enforcement process for the supplemental tax within the procedures and processes already existing; specifying the role of the City in maintaining and enhancing existing services; encouraging the creation of partnerships between and among the Authority, the City, the state, the federal government and other property owners not subject to the supplemental tax; establishing the Board of Estimates as the agency charged with reviewing and approving various matters relating to the district and the Authority;

providing for the renewal, expiration, termination and approval of the District and the Authority; otherwise providing for the existence, operation and control of the District and the Authority; and providing for a special effective date.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 14.

Nays - Councilmember Dorsey - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 20-0484 - A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council renewing and continuing the Midtown Community Benefits District and Management Authority; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the activities and authority of the Midtown Community Benefits District and Management Authority.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 20-0491 - A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council authorizing the City Auditor to issue subpoenas to certain individuals and entities; requiring the City Auditor to provide a copy of certain completed audit reports to the agency audited; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 14.

Nays - Councilmember Costello - Total 1.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

The President laid before the City Council:

BILL NO. 20-0518 - An Ordinance adding the 1500 and 1600 blocks of Argonne Drive, odd side, to the Parking Management Plan for RPP Area 2; ~~and~~ correcting related language; and providing for a special effective date.

It was read the third time.

The bill being on its final passage, the yeas and nays were called, resulting as follows:

Yeas - President and Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Schleifer, Middleton, Pinkett, Burnett, Bullock, Reisinger, Costello, Stokes, Sneed, Clarke - Total 15.

Nays - 0.

The bill was read and approved, and the bill was declared "Passed".

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 20-0527**

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. 20-0527.

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. 20-0528**

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. 20-0528.

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.

Journal of the City Council**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 20-0532**

Councilmember Dorsey made a motion, duly seconded, to suspend Rules 10-2 and 10-3 in order to have an early hearing on Bill No. 20-0532.

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

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CITY COUNCIL RULES 10-2 AND 10-3
WITH REGARD TO BILL NO. 20-0223R**

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. 20-0223R.

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, May 18, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

Consent Calendar

CR 3017 Burnett

A City Council Resolution to John S. Carey on your outstanding work in assisting Baltimore City residents and providing essential materials and supplies for those in need.