

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Newburgh was held on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the third floor Council Chambers at City Hall, 83 Broadway, Newburgh, NY.

Moment of Silence (Prayer)/ Momento de Silencio (Rezo)

Mayor Harvey asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance/ Juramento a la Alianza

Roll Call/ Lista de Asistencia

Present: Mayor Harvey, presiding; Councilman Grice, Councilwoman Mejia (arrived at 6:15 after roll call), Councilwoman Monteverde, Councilwoman Rayford, Councilman Sklarz, Councilwoman Sofokles - 7

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA AND GENERAL MATTERS OF CITY BUSINESS

There were comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL REGARDING THE AGENDA AND GENERAL MATTERS OF CITY BUSINESS

Councilwoman Rayford said in regard to Resolution #137-2019 that she felt like she was on trial as Jesus was when he went before Pilate and she wanted the community to know that.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Resolution No. 136-2019 - Home Rule request -- Police Officer Samuel Kenan Jr retirement

Councilman Grice moved and Councilwoman Rayford seconded.

Ayes: Grice, Monteverde, Rayford, Sklarz, Sofokles, Harvey - 6

Adopted

Resolution No. 137 - 2019 - Budget Transfer to the African American Pride Parade

Mayor Harvey said that this has been in discussion for some time now as the African American Pride Parade was a resolution that passed by this City Council in December of 2018 so he asked for clarification.

City Manager, Joseph Donat said a resolution was passed and it noted that the Parade and Festival would be City sponsored. It also indicated it would be on the first weekend in June but it was then moved to the following weekend because of a scheduling conflict.

Mayor Harvey said he wants to make it clear to Councilwoman Rayford and the rest of the City Council that there are a number of festivals going on this weekend. There is a Greek Festival, an Italian Festival, the African American Pride Parade and Festival, a repair bike shop event and a repair auto brake light event. He knows Sadie Tallie who has been a strong community advocate for this City for many years will be honored at this Event and the only thing he was concerned with is that it is a two day Festival not a Parade one day and the Festival one day. He received a call from some Reporters and gave them the best information he could because on the Flyer that was posted on the City's Website it said, *"African American Pride Parade and Festival June 7th and 8th"* so there were some questions asking if both the Parade and Festival were going to be on both days. We want to make this clear to the public. The Parade is just one day which will take the same route as the Memorial Day Parade and it will start at 10:00 a.m. and the Festival will commence after the Parade has concluded at Washington's Headquarters. When will the presentation to Sadie Tallie take place?

Councilwoman Rayford said to clarify that the Flyer states June 8th and 9th starting at 10:00 a.m. The lineup will be on Richmond Avenue proceeding to Third Street, West Street to Broadway down eastward to Liberty Street and over to Washington's Headquarters. From there the vendors will already be in the Park and everything starts at 10:00 a.m. but the lineup for the stage will start once Sister Tallie returns from the Parade and is on the stage.

Mayor Harvey asked where is the stage set up?

Councilwoman Rayford said it will be set up at Downing Park.

Councilwoman Monteverde asked if Washington's Headquarters is going to be open.

Councilwoman Rayford said, *"No not that she knows of but that's where the Parade route is going to be."*

Councilman Grice explained that each of them as Council members receives a budget item for travel and conference so that is where this item is coming from and we have to vote on it if we are going to use it for something outside of those funds. We as a Council use our Comptroller's office to make sure the funds go to the appropriate entities.

Councilwoman Rayford read resolution #137-2019 aloud.

Councilwoman Sofokles said it is her understanding that the port-a-potties cost \$900.00 so will the balance be coming from the vendors?

Councilwoman Rayford said yes, right now she does have vendors but she is looking for more to come. She added that she is familiar with the transferring of funds and that the Council has the ability to do so but this money was not used in prior years so what happens to that money?

City Comptroller, Todd Venning said that the Council Budget is part of the General Fund and the General Fund closes out every year so whatever didn't happen in 2017 or 2018 those books are closed. After the year is done we close out and start over with a new Budget.

Mayor Harvey said, *"If you don't use it, you lose it."*

Councilwoman Rayford said that when former Councilwoman Cindy Holmes was here she supported National Night Out and asked the rest of the Council to donate towards that Event. A resolution was created and that did happen so she is wondering if she can ask the rest of the Council if they didn't use their money would they like to donate towards this Event.

Councilwoman Sofokles said that there has to be a resolution to do that and it's not on the agenda. She noted that she has been on the Downing Park Planning Committee, which she started in 1985, and nobody wants anything to happen in the Park or the City that's not well organized. She spoke with Councilwoman Rayford before the meeting and everything is in order which is all they ask because they want to encourage events in the Park. It was always their goal to make the Park beautiful and encourage people to use it so she is happy that she got this all together and she hopes her event is nice in the Park.

Councilwoman Rayford said her question was about finances. She was talking about funding and Councilwoman Sofokles said that a resolution needs to be created but it's not.

Councilwoman Sofokles said, *"For anybody else to use their funds."*

City Manager, Joseph Donat said that if her colleagues on the Council were to make any type of transfer similar to the one we are discussing this evening then there would need to be a resolution to allow for that to happen and we don't have a resolution at this time.

Councilwoman Rayford said that if a vendor had an invoice for services that were already carried out the invoice would be submitted and the payout would happen. That would give the Council enough time to create a resolution, vote on it and then execute it.

Mayor Harvey said he thinks all of the other Council members already planned conferences that speak for those funds for the 2019 fiscal year prior to knowing that there was a need for financial support for this particular Event. We went to Harvard and there are some other conferences that Council members are planning to participate in between now and December.

Councilwoman Rayford thanked Mayor Harvey for speaking for the rest of the Council.

It's either a yes or no but if a resolution isn't going to be created she is asking the Council to, if they can, make a donation towards this Event. *"I want to thank all those who will take part in this Event and I don't want this African American Pride Parade and Festival to look like us folks don't know how to have a good time without something popping off may I say because that's what I felt in several meetings. We want to be treated just like every other Event."*

Councilwoman Monteverde said she takes offense to that because we did support it and passed the resolution. There are guidelines to follow for anyone who comes before us to ask for sponsorship or support.

Councilwoman Rayford said there are guidelines for everything and she can take offense if she wants. Since this resolution was passed in December she didn't have the support of anyone. Once the resolution was passed no one mentioned the African American Pride Festival and Parade. You can check the Minutes because all she heard up until a few weeks ago was about the Illuminated and that's alright because God has his hand on this one.

Mayor Harvey said for a point of clarification that the City Council did pass this resolution to support this African American Pride Parade and Festival in December of 2018. He, Councilman Grice and Mr. Corey Allen asked a number of times if there was any support needed and he was told that she didn't need assistance so we anticipate that this is going to be a successful Event just as the others have been. He told Councilwoman Rayford that they appreciate her efforts and they definitely support Sadie Tallie who has done a lot for this City and for so many people.

Councilwoman Rayford moved and Councilman Grice seconded.

Ayes: Grice, Mejia, Rayford, Sklarz, Sofokles, Harvey - 6

Abstain: Monteverde

Adopted

FURTHER COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

There were no further comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

**LORENE VITEK
CITY CLERK**

RESOLUTION NO.: 136 - 2019

OF

JUNE 6, 2019

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE LEGISLATURE
TO ENACT SENATE BILL S4135-A AND ASSEMBLY BILL A7014-A
AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEWBURGH TO OFFER
AN OPTIONAL TWENTY YEAR RETIREMENT PLAN
TO POLICE OFFICER SAMUEL KENAN, JR.
PURSUANT TO SECTION 384-d OF THE RETIREMENT
AND SOCIAL SECURITY LAW

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 106-2019 of May 13, 2019, the City Council of the City of Newburgh made a Home Rule Request pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York to the Senate and Assembly of New York to enact Senate Bill S4135 and Assembly Bill A7014 to authorize the City of Newburgh to offer an optional Twenty (20) Year Retirement Plan to Police Officer Samuel Kenan, Jr. pursuant to Section 384-d of the Retirement and Social Security Law; and

WHEREAS, the Senate and Assembly Bills were amended to include Police Officer Kenan's actual dates of employment with the City of Newburgh and the amended Bills require a new Home Rule Request to be approved by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that that making new Home Rule Request in connection with amended Bills in the best interests of the City of Newburgh;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Newburgh, New York that this Council does hereby make a Home Rule Request pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York that the Senate and Assembly of New York enact Senate Bill S4135-A and Assembly Bill A7014-A, a copy of which is annexed hereto, to authorize the City of Newburgh to offer an optional Twenty (20) Year Retirement Plan to Police Officer Samuel Kenan, Jr. pursuant to Section 384-d of the Retirement and Social Security Law, same as being in the best interests of the City of Newburgh.

RESOLUTION NO.: 137 - 2019

OF

JUNE 6, 2019

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 364-2018,
THE 2019 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NEWBURGH, NEW YORK TO TRANSFER
\$571.42 FROM LEGISLATIVE BODY-TRAVEL AND CONFERENCE AND
\$157.14 FROM LEGISLATIVE BODY-EDUCATION
TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PRIDE PARADE

WHEREAS, Councilwoman Hillary Rayford proposes to transfer her allocation from the Legislative budget in the amount of \$728.56 to the African American Pride Parade to support funding for the event; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds that the transfer of funds and 2019 budget amendment is in the best interests of the City of Newburgh;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Newburgh that Resolution No. 364-2019, the 2019 Budget of the City of Newburgh, is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
A.1010.0461 Legislative Body-Travel & Conference	\$571.42	
A.1010.0463 Legislative Body-Education	<u>\$157.14</u>	
 A.7550.0765 African American Parade		 <u>\$ 728.56</u>
 TOTALS:	 \$728.56	 \$ 728.56