



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA • FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Regular Meeting

Sullivan Chamber 5:30 PM

Cambridge City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139

I. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting Communication from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of \$50,000 from the General Fund Employee Benefits (Insurance) Salary and Wages account to the General Fund Inspectional Services Travel & Training (Judgment and Damages) account. The funds will cover medical bills and settlements for personnel injured in the course of their job.
CMA 2023 #21

This item was adopted on the consent agenda. No discussion took place.

2. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number #22-81, related to improving marketing and communication efforts and outreach for the Cambridge Community Electricity (CCE) program.
CMA 2023 #22

This communication is in response to this policy order filed by Councillor Nolan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Zondervan, and myself asking the City Manager to work with the relevant departments to increase the marketing for the Cambridge Community Electricity program. This program offers extremely low sustainable home energy rates, yet only a small fraction of City homes and businesses enrolled in the 100% green option. This [report](#) outlines the measures the Community Development Department plans to implement in order to increase the participation such as a communication campaign to remind residents about the program and a feature in Cambridge Life Magazine that is mailed to all homes and businesses. There was discussion about the difficulty of reaching low-income households, of which only 62% are enrolled in CCE. The CDD explained that low-income households are approached by many competitively priced programs, making it harder for CCE to appeal to them, but they continue to remind residents that CCE is renewable and rates are locked in.

This communication was placed on file.

3. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Calendar Item No. 10 of 3/21/22 requesting that the City Manager amend all existing Host Community Agreements (“HCA”) previously issued by the City by reducing the Impact Fee to 0.05% of Gross Revenue and to refrain from placing this burden upon any future HCAs that may yet be issued, unless supporting evidence is provided by the City showing a finding that it incurred additional expenses and impacts upon its road system, law enforcement, inspectional services, permitting services, administrative services, educational services and public health services greater than the .05% of

Gross Revenue collected from all the Economic Empowerment applicant and Social Equity applicant dispensaries annually.

CMA 2023 #23

This communication is in response to this [policy order](#) filed by Councillors Simmons, Azeem, Toner, Zondervan, and McGovern asking the City Manager to work with the necessary departments to amend the Host Community Agreements that currently require Economic Empowerment and Social Equity dispensaries to reimburse the City for negative impacts on traffic and security. Since the City has not been negatively impacted, the fee is being reduced to 0.05%. And further, the [report](#) back from CDD stated: “Therefore, consistent with the Council’s request that the City reduce or eliminate Community Impact Fees and the Act’s further restrictions on Community Impact Fees, the City will no longer require the payment of Community Impact Fees as a condition in its HCAs. Furthermore, the City will amend all current HCAs to remove that requirement. So far, the City has not collected any Community Impact Fee payments from operational cannabis establishment while we evaluated changes to the law, so there are no payments to refund, and the City will continue to not collect payments while we seek to amend existing HCAs”.

This communication was placed on file.

4. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to Council Order No. O-8 of 1/23/2023, regarding (1) whether there is a two year bar on considering repetitive zoning petitions that have been unfavorably acted upon by the Council, (2) if so, whether that bar on repetitive petitions would prohibit the Council from moving forward with a Council initiated lab use zoning petition if there is unfavorable action on the pending Callender, et al. Petition, and (3) if so, what types of changes to zoning petition would be necessary for it to no longer be considered a repetitive petition

CMA 2023 #24

This [communication](#) is in response to this [policy order](#) asking whether or not there is a 2 year ban on repetitive zoning petitions that were unfavorably acted on by the Council, and whether or not the ban would prohibit a similar petition to be filed. Solicitor Glowka explained that if the Council took a negative action, a duplicate petition would be under the 2 year ban, but if it was substantially different than these petitions it would not fall under the ban.

This item was referred to the joint Economic Development and University Relations & Neighborhood & Long-Term Planning, Public Facilities, Arts & Celebration Committees to be discussed at the February 7th, 2023 meeting.

Reconsideration on this item failed, making all action final tonight.

5. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a request for approval to seek authorization from the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General (the “IG”) for the City to use the Construction Manager at Risk (“CMaR”) procurement and construction method (the “CMaR Method”) in connection with the Danehy Park Gateway

Pavilion project.
CMA 2023 #25

This item was adopted on the consent agenda. No discussion took place.

6. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the appointment and reappointment of members of the Recycling Advisory Committee.
CMA 2023 #26

This item was adopted on the consent agenda. No discussion took place.

7. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to the Police Review and Advisory Board quarterly reports.
CMA 2023 #27

The rules were suspended to bring this item forward with CMA Item #8 and #9.

This [communication](#) contains quarterly reports from the Police Review Advisory Board from Peace Commissioner Brian Corr.

This item was referred to the Public Safety Committee for a future hearing.

8. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a report on an itemized statement of all materials, tools, and property owned by the Cambridge Police Department.
CMA 2023 #28

The rules were suspended to bring this item forward with CMA Item #7 and #9.

This [communication](#) contains an itemized list of all police materials, tools, and property owned by the Cambridge Police Department.

This item was referred to the Public Safety Committee for a future hearing.

9. A communication transmitted from Yi-An Huang, City Manager, relative to a report on an itemized statement of all materials, tools, and property owned by the Cambridge Police Department.
CMA 2023 #29

The rules were suspended to bring this item forward with CMA Item #7 and #8.

This [communication](#) contains an itemized list of all police materials, tools, and property owned by the Cambridge Police Department.

This item was referred to the Public Safety Committee for a future hearing.

II. CALENDAR

CHARTER RIGHT

1. That the City Manager continue our current policy of towing cars on street cleaning days and come back to the Council with a plan to create an annual fund to reimburse economically disadvantaged residents who are unable to pay the towing fee before the beginning of towing season. **CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN IN COUNCIL JANUARY 23, 2023. POR 2023 #12**

This policy order was filed by Councillor Toner and asks the City to look into continuing to tow cars on street cleaning days and creating a fund before the 2023 street cleaning season for economically disadvantaged residents who cannot afford to pay their towing fees. There was discussion about the effectiveness of this policy and whether or not this would hinder the pilot that was previously adopted by the Council.

This policy order failed by a vote of 3-4-2. Councillors Toner, Simmons, and McGovern voted yes. Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Nolan, Zondervan, and myself voted no. Councillors Azeem and Carlone were both absent.

2. That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to have the appropriate City staff establish the framework that will allow for the immediate elimination of the bicycle parking fees imposed upon Economic Empowerment and Social Equity applicants and cannabis dispensary operators in the City of Cambridge.

CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR ZONDERVAN IN COUNCIL JANUARY 23, 2023. POR 2023 #13

This [policy order](#) was filed by Councillor Simmons and asks the City to immediately remove the bicycle parking fee stipulation for Economic Empowerment and Social Equity applicants for cannabis dispensaries. Councillor Zondervan offered the following amendment (in blue) that calls for reimbursement of any entities that had previously paid for the bicycle parking fee in addition to the elimination of any future fees:

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to have the appropriate City staff establish the framework that will allow for the immediate elimination [and reimbursement](#) of the bicycle parking fees imposed upon Economic Empowerment and Social Equity applicants and cannabis dispensary operators in the City of Cambridge: and be it further

This amendment was adopted.

This policy order was adopted as amended.

The rules were suspended to move reconsideration on this item. Reconsideration failed, making the vote on this item final tonight.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. That the Ordinance Committee refer Categories M (Shared Vehicle) and N (Publicly-accessible, Privately-owned Electric Vehicle Charging System) of the Cambridge Transportation Decarbonization and Congestion Mitigation Bill, along with definitions, to the full City Council with a favorable recommendation. Ordinance #2022-13 as Amended
EXPIRED ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 POR 2022 #150

No action was taken.

4. An Ordinance has been received from Diane P. LeBlanc City Clerk, relative to Emissions Accounting Zoning Petition (Ordinance #2022-20)
**PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL DECEMBER 19, 2022
TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 9, 2023
EXPIRES ON MARCH 6, 2023 ORD 2022 # 20**

No action was taken. There were not enough Councillors present tonight to ordain.

5. An Ordinance has been received from Diane P. LeBlanc City Clerk, relative to Ordinance #2022-23 Removing the Limit on BZA Compensation.
**PASSED TO A SECOND READING IN COUNCIL JANUARY 9, 2023
TO BE ORDAINED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 30, 2023
EXPIRES ON MARCH 14, 2023 ORD 2022 # 23**

This ordinance was ordained. This updated language will allow members of the BZA to be paid stipends for their service, a step we have been looking to take for many years that will allow us to have more inclusive and representative Board of Zoning Appeals

III. APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Heritage Flag Co. representing the American Repertory Theatre requesting permission for eight (8) temporary banners along Broadway and eighteen (18) temporary banners along Massachusetts Avenue announcing the upcoming production of Wife of Willesden from February 14, 2023 through March 20, 2023.
APP 2023 #6

This application was approved.

2. An application was received from Kelley Brown, requesting permission for a curb cut at the premises numbered 51 Vassar Street; said petition has received approval from Inspectional Services, Traffic, Parking and Transportation, Historical Commission and Public Works. No response has been received from the neighborhood association.
APP 2023 #7

This application was approved.

VI. POLICY ORDER AND RESOLUTION LIST

1. That the City Manager is requested to instruct the Community Development Department to draft amendments to the proposed BEUDO language to change the net zero deadline from 2050 to 2035 and to propose language to meet that deadline throughout the document (From the April 20, 2022 Ordinance Committee).

Councillor Zondervan

POR 2023 #14

This [policy order](#) asks the City Manager to direct the Community Development Department to draft amendments to the BEUDO language to move the net zero deadline from 2050 to 2035. This policy order came out of an April 20th, 2022 Ordinance Committee and was sent to the full City Council for discussion and possible adoption.

Councillor Toner exercised his Charter Right on this item, halting all action and discussion on this item until the next Council meeting.

2. That the City Manager is requested to take immediate steps to begin the process of obtaining police body worn cameras for the Cambridge Police Department, and to work with all appropriate Departments to produce policy recommendations that would allow body worn camera usage while also not violating civil liberties in compliance with the City's Surveillance Ordinance.

Councillor McGovern, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Azeem

POR 2023 #15

This [policy order](#) filed by Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Azeem, and myself asks the City Manager to begin working immediately to obtain body cameras for the Cambridge Police Department. This is a policy that came out of the [January 18](#) and [January 25](#) Special City Council meetings following the police shooting of Sayed Arif Faisal. At a [May 2021 budget hearing](#), former Police Commissioner Bard told the Council that there was a Request for Proposals (RFP) in progress, and that the City and Police leadership were supportive of the equipment, as was the Police Union. Since then we have not heard about the progress. Body cameras have been talked about in Cambridge for many years, and while we know they are not a solution to the problem, they will help provide clarity, transparency, and evidence during police encounters.

This policy order was amended to include Councillors Nolan, Simmons, and Toner as cosponsors.

This policy order was adopted as amended.

3. That the City Manager is requested to determine the best ways to promote bike safety with a particular focus on expanding the distribution of bike lights throughout the City.

Councillor McGovern, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Azeem, Councillor Zondervan

POR 2023 #16

The State recently passed an [Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities](#) which highlights the importance of bicycle lights. As we know, bicycle lights are critical for cyclists to be seen by cars, pedestrians, and other cyclists on the road. This [policy order](#) filed by Councillor McGovern, Councillor

Azeem, Councillor Zondervan, and myself asks the City to not only promote bike safety, but also to specifically focus on distributing bike lights to all who need them.

This policy order was adopted.

4. That the City Manager is requested to direct Police Commissioner Elow to work on providing publicly- accessible traffic stop, arrest and citation police data on a new Procedural Justice Dashboard as soon as possible.

Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor Azeem, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor McGovern
POR 2023 #17

This [policy order](#) that I submitted alongside Councillor Azeem, Councillor McGovern, and Mayor Siddiqui asks the City Manager to direct the Police Commissioner to provide a report on the planned implementation of a publicly-accessible dashboard that shows traffic stop, arrest, and citation data. This is a tool that has been discussed since 2019, but has not yet been put in place. It is important that we receive regular updates about police activity to ensure the fullest transparency of the Department. I'm grateful to my cosponsors for standing with me as we ask for this tool to be implemented in our City.

This policy order was adopted.

5. That the Finance Committee Convene a meeting on Police Budget including body camera discussion.

Councillor Nolan, Councillor Carlone
POR 2023 #18

This [policy order](#) asks the Finance Committee to schedule a hearing on the Police Budget to discuss the funding for body cameras.

This policy order was adopted.

6. That the City Manager is requested to look into the feasibility of automated traffic enforcement in Cambridge as well as using unarmed CPD traffic details for future discussion Automated/Unarmed Traffic Enforcement.

Councillor Azeem, Councillor Zondervan, Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Carlone
POR 2023 #19

This [policy order](#) asks the City Manager to look into using automated traffic enforcement systems or unarmed Cambridge Police traffic details. This order seeks to remove the amount of encounters with armed police officers.

Councillor Toner exercised his Charter Right on this item, halting all discussion and action on this item until the next Council meeting.

7. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Police Commissioner to explore additional less-than- lethal alternatives that pose the smallest risk of injury when deployed for standard issue

in the Cambridge Police Department.

Councillor Azeem, Councillor Toner, Councillor Simmons

POR 2023 #20

This [policy order](#) asks the City Manager to direct the Police Commissioner to look into all additional non-lethal alternatives that can be utilized by the Cambridge Police Department. This order seeks to find other alternatives aside from tasers, pepper spray, and sponge bullets that are non-lethal that the CPD can use to de-escalate situations.

This policy order was adopted.

8. That the Regular City Council Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2023 be canceled due to the National League of Cities conference.

Mayor Siddiqui

POR 2023 #21

This policy order was adopted.

9. That the City Council and the School Committee will hold a joint roundtable on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 5:00pm to receive an update from the City Manager, Superintendent, and the Cambridge Office of Early Childhood on the next steps towards the implementation of universal Pre-K in Cambridge.

Mayor Siddiqui

POR 2023 #22

This roundtable discussion on Universal Pre-k will be held on Tuesday, February 14 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.

This policy order was adopted.

10. That the City Manager is requested to engage a third party, independent firm/consultant or university partner to review and examine the Cambridge Police Department's policies and practices regarding de-escalation methods, mental health calls for service, training, and more.

Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Azeem

POR 2023 #23

This [policy order](#) filed by Mayor Siddiqui along with Councillor McGovern, Councillor Azeem, and myself asking the City Manager to engage a third-party reviewer to examine the Cambridge Police Department's policies and practices regarding de-escalation methods and mental health calls. We know we cannot change the outcome of January 4th, but it is imperative that we look to the future so we can make the appropriate changes to policy and practice within the Cambridge Police Department. It's important to acknowledge that our young people are experiencing mental health issues at an intensity and rate that we cannot begin to understand, and we cannot wait until the District Attorney's office completes her inquest procedure to take action on any policies or procedures currently in place that could be changed.

This policy order was adopted.

11. That the City Manager is requested to work with the Community Development Department and all other relevant departments to engage with community groups and the City's existing multi-member bodies to design the next iteration of the Cambridge Community Electricity Aggregation program.

Councillor Nolan, Councillor Zondervan, Mayor Siddiqui, Vice Mayor Mallon
POR 2023 #24

This policy order asks the City Manager to work with the Community Development Department to design the next iteration of the Cambridge Community Electricity Program. Councillor Nolan offered the following amendment to the first ordered paragraph (in blue) that includes commercial and municipal accounts:

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with the Community Development Department and all other relevant departments to engage with community groups and the City's existing multi-member bodies to design the next iteration of the Cambridge Community Electricity Aggregation program to consider setting a default, opt-out option of 100% renewable electricity and maintain an opt-in option at a lower rate at the minimum renewable percent and include all commercial and municipal accounts that could benefit from the plan; and be it further

This amendment was adopted. This policy order was adopted as amended.

12. That the City Manager is requested to work with staff in the Cambridge Public Health Department to review the current state of mental health resources, particularly for underserved communities, within the Cambridge Health Alliance.

Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Azeem, Councillor McGovern, Councillor Nolan
POR 2023 #25

This policy order asks the City Manager to work with the Cambridge Public Health Department to review the current mental health resources in the City offered through the Cambridge Health Alliance, especially for underserved communities. As many of us know, many mental health departments and service providers are overwhelmed with the rise in demand following the pandemic, and it is critical that we ensure all of our residents have access to the resources they need.

This policy order was amended to add the entire council as cosponsors.

This policy order was adopted.

13. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council as soon as possible on the request to increase overnight resident street parking options in the vicinity of Rogers Street in East Cambridge. **Councillor Zondervan**

POR 2023 #26

This policy order asks the City Manager to look into increasing overnight street parking for residents in the Rogers Street area.

This policy order was adopted.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Ordinance Committee held a public hearing on September 26, 2019 to discuss the petition by Stephen R. Karp, Trustee of Cambridgeside Galleria Associates Trust, to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge by adding a Section 13.100 that creates a new PUD-8 District and to amend the Zoning Map of the City of Cambridge by adding the new PUD-8 District, which District would include the property located at 100 Cambridgeside Place (currently zoned in the Business A and PUD-4 Districts).

This committee report was accepted and placed on file.

2. The Ordinance Committee met on November 14, 2019 to continue discussions on the petition by Stephen R. Karp, Trustee of CambridgeSide Galleria Associates Trust, to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Cambridge by adding a Section 13.100 that creates a new PUD-8 District.

This committee report not in the agenda packet, therefore could not be voted on this week. This was placed on unfinished business, and will be taken up at the next City Council meeting.

3. The Ordinance Committee met on March 30, 2022 to conduct a public hearing on, Ordinance #2022- 3, the Wage Theft Ordinance.

- (i) be made up of 12-18 registered voters of the City, not currently holding any elective office;
- (ii) be made up of members selected by an ad hoc committee of four councillors appointed by the Mayor;
- (iii) hold all of its meetings in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law and keep written minutes of all meetings which shall be submitted to and approved by the special committee at its next meeting;
- (iv) hold duly posted and advertised public meetings to seek input from members of the community on whether any changes to the City Charter should be made and the reasons why any proposed changes would be desirable, the beneficial effects that any such changes would have upon the electorate and the community in general, and the beneficial effects that any such changes would have upon the reasonable operation and effectiveness of City government;
- (v) submit a written report to the City Council within one (1) year of its appointment, unless the special committee seeks an extension of the one-year period for enumerated reasons stated by the special committee and the City Council approves the requested extension of the one-year period by majority vote. The written report shall include any charter changes the special committee recommends as necessary or

desirable by a two-thirds vote of the special committee, and shall include the reasons for the recommended changes to be made and the anticipated effects of the changes as set forth in subsection iv above; and

(vi) dissolve once it files its written report with the City Council. Action on any proposed Charter changes shall be as authorized by law.

C.

This committee report was accepted and placed on file.

4. The Ordinance Committee met on April 13, 2022, to hold a public hearing on proposed ordinance number 2022-2, Charter Change Municipal Code Amendments.

The Committee voted favorable to send the following language to the Full Council with a recommendation to pass to a second reading.

Be it ordained by the City Council that the Cambridge Municipal Code Chapter 2.02 entitled “City Council” shall be amended by the addition of the following two sections.

Section 2.02.090 Annual Review of City Manager’s Performance

A. As provided in G.L. c. 43, § 116(a) the City Council shall prepare and deliver to the City Manager an annual written performance review of the City Manager’s performance.

B. The annual written performance review shall address the City Manager’s performance during the prior year and the work that the City Council would like to be performed by the City Manager in the following year. C. The annual written performance review shall be completed and delivered to the City Manager by

no later than March 30 of each year and shall encompass the City Manager’s performance during the preceding calendar year.

Section 2.02.100 Special Committee to Review the City Charter Every Ten Years

A. As provided in G.L. c. 43, §116(b), no later than July 1 in each year ending in 2, beginning in 2022 and every 10 years thereafter, the City Council shall establish a special committee tasked with reviewing the City Charter and recommending any proposed changes the special committee deems necessary or desirable.

A. An Ordinance has been received from Diane P. LeBlanc City Clerk, relative to

ORD 2022 # 2

5. The Ordinance Committee met on April 20, 2022, to continue the public hearing on proposed amendments to the Building Energy Use Disclosure Ordinance (Ordinance #2021-26)

The Committee voted favorably to ask the City Manager to instruct the Community Development Department to draft amendments to the proposed BEUDO language to change the net zero deadline from 2050 to 2035 and to propose language to meet that deadline throughout the document. This appears on this agenda as a Policy Order.

Excerpt from the Transcript

CITY CLERK ANTHONY WILSON: Mr. Chair, I just want to again read this to make sure that this is recorded correctly. So Councillor Nolan's motion is to instruct CDD -- oops, to ask the City Manager to instruct the Community Development Department to draft amendments to the proposed BEUDO language to change the net zero deadline from 2050 to 2035 and to propose language to meet that deadline throughout the document. Is that correct?

COUNCILLOR QUINTON Y. ZONDERVAN: Perfect.

COUNCILLOR PATRICIA M. NOLAN: Yes. Thank you.

CITY CLERK ANTHONY WILSON: On that motion.

City Clerk Anthony Wilson called the roll:

Councillor Burhan Azeem - Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone - Yes

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Absent

Councillor Marc C. McGovern - Absent

Councillor Patricia M. Nolan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Councillor E. Denis Simmons – Absent

Councillor Paul F. Toner – Absent

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Yes-5, No-0, Absent-4. Motion Passed

The roll call in this committee report was amended to reflect that Councillor Simmons and myself were not present at the meeting.

This amendment was adopted.

This committee report was placed on unfinished business.

6. The Government, Operations, Rules, and Claims Committee held a public meeting on January 11, 2023 for the purpose of reviewing recent report of Boards and Commissions from the City Manager which are subject to City Council approval, and to discuss the City Clerks request for a dedicated email address for City Council communications.

This committee report was accepted and placed on file.

7. The Ordinance Committee met on January 26, 2023, to continue the discussion on proposed Ordinance #2022-9, Climate Resilience Zoning. The Committee Voted favorably to send the Petition to the Full Council with a favorable recommendation to pass to a second reading.

A. An Ordinance 2022 #9 has been received from Diane LeBlanc City Clerk, relative to create a new Section 22.80 Flood Resilience Standards

ORD 2022 # 9

This ordinance was passed to a second reading.

This committee report was accepted and placed on file.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, transmitting an update regarding legislative activity.

COF 2023 #25

This communication was placed on file.

2. A communication was received from Mayor Siddiqui, transmitting information from the School Committee.

COF 2023 #26

This communication was placed on file.

3. A communication was received from Diane LeBlanc, City Clerk, regarding the Douglas Brown Petition.

COF 2023 #27

The rules suspended to bring this item forward out of order.

This communication is in response to the Douglas Brown citizen's petition that was originally filed on January 9, 2023. The City Solicitor initially ruled that this petition could be referred to the Ordinance Committee and Planning Board even though there was only one sponsor of the petition, Douglas Brown. The Solicitor explained that she believed this petition fell under the State statute that allows citizens to file a petition if a zoning change affects their property, but this zoning change affects more than Mr. Brown's property, so it is necessary to have a minimum of 10 resident signatures in support.

I motioned to rescind this petition from the Ordinance Committee and Planning Board. Councillor Zondervan exercised his Charter Right on that motion, and asked the City Solicitor for a written legal opinion to share with the public. This motion passed.

This communication was placed on file.