

**ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING**

**Monday November 24, 2014**

The Common Council was convened at 7:00 p.m. and was called to order by President McLaughlin.

The roll call being called, the following answered to their names: Council Members Bailey, Commisso, Conti, Doesschate, Fahey, Flynn, Golby, Herring, Igoe, Kimbrough, Kornegay, Krasher, O'Brien and Robinson

Also present was the following staff: Nala Woodard, Barbara Samel, Patrick Jordan and Cashawna Parker.

Council Member Flynn led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There being no further speakers, the President declared public comment closed.

**CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES**

**Council Member Commisso made a motion to amend Ordinance Number 46.101.14.**

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY THE MAYOR ON  
OCTOBER 1, 2014, WITH AMENDMENTS, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015**

**The City of Albany in Common Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:**

**Section 1. The budget as presented by the Mayor on October 1, 2014, is hereby adopted as and for the Budget of the City of Albany for fiscal year 2015 with the following amendments.**

<b><u>ADDITIONS TO EXPENDITURES</u></b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Amount</b>
---	----------------	---------------

<b>Add stipend for Clerk of the Common Council</b>	<b>A1010.7110</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
--	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment provides a stipend for duties performed by the Clerk of the Common Council.*

<b>Increase Senior Legislative Aide Salary</b>	<b>A1010.7150</b>	<b>\$1,188</b>
--	-------------------	----------------

*The amendment provides for a 3 percent increase in the salary of the Senior Legislative Aide.*

<b>Increase Research Counsel Salary</b>	<b>A1010.7120</b>	<b>\$1,145</b>
---	-------------------	----------------

*The amendment provides for a 3 percent increase in the salary of the Research Counsel.*

<b>Increase Contracted Services</b>	<b>A1010.7440</b>	<b>\$29,000</b>
-------------------------------------	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment provides for an increase in contracted services of the Common Council.*

<b>Fund the Unfunded Building Code Enforcement Inspector</b>	<b>A3620.7120</b>	<b>\$33,825</b>
--	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment funds this unfunded position.*

<b>Increase Social Security for the Unfunded Code Enforcement Inspector</b>	<b>A3620.7801</b>	<b>\$2,588</b>
---	-------------------	----------------

*The amendment provides funding for the Social Security and Medicare tax expenses associated with the aforementioned Code Enforcement Inspector.*

<b>Increase Social Security Line Items</b>	<b>A1010.7801</b>	<b>\$178</b>
--	-------------------	--------------

*The amendment provides funding for increased Social Security and Medicare tax expenses of the Common Council.*

<b>Increase Health Insurance Line Items</b>	<b>A1680.7804</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
---	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within the Information Technology Unit 7 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 10 will qualify in 2015.*

<b>Increase Social Security Line Items</b>	<b>A1680.7801</b>	<b>\$5,628</b>
--	-------------------	----------------

*The amendment corrects proposed Social Security expense.*

<b>Add Command Stipend</b>	<b>A3120.XXXX</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>
----------------------------	-------------------	------------------

*The amendment provides a command stipend to promote a normalized salary hierarchy within the Police Department. The amendment requires assignment of an account number.*

<b>Add School Crossing Officer (60)</b>	<b>A3120.7130</b>	<b>\$361,631</b>
---	-------------------	------------------

*The amendment provides a publicly-operated school crossing service. Absenteeism is combated with an increased wage as a typical School Crossing Officer may earn the urban living wage of \$14.51 per hour.*

<b>Add School Crossing Supervisor (4)</b>	<b>A3120.7130</b>	<b>\$44,951</b>
---	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment provides 4 part-time supervisors of the school crossing program that may report to a designee of the Police Chief. The supervisors may earn \$19.51 per hour. The creation of these positions is intended to expand management capacity.*

<b>Increase Social Security Line Items</b>	<b>A3120.7801</b>	<b>\$31,103</b>
--	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment provides for Social Security expenses for School Crossing Program personnel.*

**Increase Supplies** **A3120.7410** **\$8,000**

*The amendment provides for supplies and equipment for the School Crossing Program, including but not limited to, hats, vests and signs.*

**Add Mileage Reimbursement** **A3120.XXXX** **\$6,384**

*The amendment provides a mileage reimbursement for Supervisors of the School Crossing Program. The amendment requires assignment of an account number.*

**Add Administration and Recruitment** **A3120.XXXX** **\$4,500**

*The amendment provides for expenses related to administration and recruitment of the School Crossing Program. The amendment requires assignment of an account number.*

<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS TO EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$719,121</b>
---	------------------

**REDUCTIONS TO EXPENDITURES** **Account** **Amount**

**Reduce Policy/Fiscal Analyst** **A1010.7120** **\$10,005**

*The Policy/Fiscal Analyst position is partially leveraged as a source of funding for changes made within the Common Council. The amendment maintains the position with funding of \$29,995.*

**Reduce Health Insurance Line Items** **A1325.7804** **\$37,500**

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within the Treasurer's Office 22 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 17 will qualify in 2015.*

**Reduce Health Insurance Line Items** **A6420.7804** **\$9,225**

*The proposed budget assumes \$24,975 as the cost of health insurance for the Commissioner of Planning and Community Development. Given a 25% contribution rate on family coverage this level of funding provides for a non-existent \$31,219 option. The amendment amends funding to 2013 actual expense.*

**Reduce Health Insurance Line Items** **A1420.7804** **\$15,000**

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within the Law Department 13 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 11 will qualify in 2015.*

<b>Reduce Interns/Temporary Help</b>	<b>A1430.16.7170</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
--------------------------------------	----------------------	-----------------

*The amendment eliminates non-essential interns in the Department of Administrative Services.*

<b>Reduce Social Security Line Items</b>	<b>A1430.16.7801</b>	<b>\$1,147</b>
--	----------------------	----------------

*The amendment reduces Social Security and Medicare taxes proposed for the eliminated and non-essential interns.*

<b>Reduce Contractual Expenditures Category Total</b>	<b>A1490.7440</b>	<b>\$10,555</b>
---	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment corrects contractual expenditures in the Department of General Services.*

<b>Reduce Health Insurance Line Items</b>	<b>A1490.7804</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
---	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within the Department of General Services 22 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 20 will qualify in 2015.*

<b>Reduce Health Insurance Line Items</b>	<b>A1620.7804</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
---	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within Central Maintenance 24 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 22 will qualify in 2015.*

<b>Reduce Health Insurance Line Items</b>	<b>A3120.7804</b>	<b>\$195,000</b>
---	-------------------	------------------

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within the Police Department 427 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 401 will qualify in 2015.*

<b>Reduce Clothing Allowance</b>	<b>A3120.7193</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>
----------------------------------	-------------------	------------------

*The amendment reduces the Clothing Allowance to meet anticipated 2015 expense.*

<b>Reduce Contracted Services</b>	<b>A3120.7440</b>	<b>\$470,000</b>
-----------------------------------	-------------------	------------------

*The amendment eliminates the anticipated expense of privatizing the Crossing Guard service.*

<b>Reduce Health Insurance Line Items</b>	<b>A3020.7804</b>	<b>\$22,500</b>
---	-------------------	-----------------

*The amendment corrects health insurance expenses for units with a net change (greater than one) of employees qualifying for health insurance coverage. Additions are allocated at \$10,000 per uncovered employee and reductions are allocated at \$7,500 per eliminated employee. Within the Public Safety Communications System 42 employees qualified for coverage in 2014 and 39 will qualify in 2015.*

<b>Reduce Social Security Line Items</b>	<b>A3410.7801</b>	<b>\$222,137</b>
--	-------------------	------------------

*The amendment corrects Social Security and Medicare tax expenses in the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.*

<b>TOTAL REDUCTIONS TO EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$1,187,069</b>
--	--------------------

<u><b>ADDITIONS TO REVENUES</b></u>	<b>Account#</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Reimbursement – CAC	0000.2777	\$106,520

*The amendment restores revenue at 2014 reimbursement.*

<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS TO REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$106,520</b>
-------------------------------------	------------------

<u><b>CAPITAL BUDGET AMENDMENTS</b></u>	<b>Amount</b>
Eliminate Palace Theater Roof Restoration	\$250,000

*The amendment proposes the Capitalize Albany Corporation consider this improvement to promote improved economic conditions in downtown Albany.*

Transfer Technology Innovations from Borrowing to Other	\$200,000
---	-----------

*The amendment anticipates funding from sources other than borrowing.*

Transfer Asset & Fleet Management from Borrowing to Other	\$85,000
---	----------

*The amendment anticipates funding from sources other than borrowing.*

Transfer Computer Aided Dispatch from Borrowing to Other	\$750,000
--	-----------

*The amendment anticipates funding from sources other than borrowing.*

<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS TO EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$719,121</b>
---	------------------

<b>TOTAL REDUCTIONS TO EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$1,187,069</b>
--	--------------------

<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS TO REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$106,520</b>
-------------------------------------	------------------

<b>NET FISCAL IMPACT:</b>	<b>(\$574,468)</b>
---------------------------	--------------------

<b>FUND BALANCE PROPOSED TO BE APPROPRIATED TO 2015 BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>
---	--------------------

**FUND BALANCE AMENDED TO BE APPROPRIATED TO 2015 BUDGET:  
\$1,446,228**

Section 2. It is hereby ordered and directed that the sums set forth therein as expenditures are hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the several departments, offices and purposes specified therein.

Section 3. It is further hereby ordered and directed that the sums set forth therein as revenues and the moneys necessary to be raised by tax in addition thereto to pay the expenses of conducting the business of the City shall be and are hereby applicable in the amounts specified for the purpose of meeting said appropriations.

**Section 4. This ordinance shall be effective immediately.**

*\*Note: There was point of clarifications from Council Member Conti, Krasher, President McLaughlin and O'Brien.*

**Council Member O'Brien offered Amendment A, asked for passage and a roll call vote thereon:**

**AMENDMENT A**

**Reduce Contracted Services  
\$159,855**

**A1355.7450**

*The amendment removes funding for a city-wide reassessment of real property*

*\*Note: Council Members O'Brien, Krasher and Conti spoke on this amendment prior to the roll call vote.*

**The amendment failed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:**

Affirmative – Bailey, Commisso, Flynn, Krasher and O'Brien

Negative – Conti, Doesschate, Fahey, Golby, Herring, Igoe, Kimbrough, Kornegay and Robinson

**Affirmative 5 Negative 9 Abstain 0**

**Council Member Doesschate made a motion to offer an amendment submitted by the Mayor's Office titled "Total General Fund Additions to Expenditures".**

*\*Note: Council Members Doesschate and Krasher spoke on this amendment.*

Council Member Krasher made a motion to recess, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Council Member Doesschate withdrew the previous motion and offered a revised amendment, which would not privatize the school crossing officers based on the administration's proposal to Ordinance Number 46.101.14

*\*Note: Council Members Doesschate, Krasher, O'Brien, Conti, Commisso and President McLaughlin spoke on this motion prior to the roll call vote.*

**The motion passed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:**

Affirmative – Conti, Doesschate, Fahey, Golby, Herring, Igoe, Kimbrough, Kornegay and Robinson

Present – Bailey, Kimbrough, Krasher and O'Brien

Negative – Commisso

**Affirmative 9 Negative 1 Abstain 4**

**Council Member Conti made a motion to recess, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

**Council Member Commisso withdrew Ordinance Number 46.101.14.**

### **MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Council President McLaughlin explained the process of reintroduction and requested that a special meeting be noticed for this purpose for Friday, November 28 at 5:30 p.m.**

**Council Member Krasher discussed his feelings on how the meeting turned out this evening and how hard everyone worked during this budget process.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council President McLaughlin stated hearing no objections, that the Council was adjourned.

A true record of the Common Council Minutes of November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

CASHAWNA PARKER  
SENIOR LEGISLATIVE AIDE TO THE  
COMMON COUNCIL