



## ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2023 UPDATES

Dear neighbors,

Welcome to the Common Council's official newsletter. Here you'll find resources to help you get involved with legislating in the City of Albany. You'll also find updates on legislation that the Council has recently passed and details on where to view the legislation that it's considering now.

We hope that these resources empower you to become an active part of the Council's work. Whether it's approaching [your councilmember](#) with an idea or commenting on pending legislation at a meeting, your participation makes the difference.

Please take a few moments to read through this newsletter, and please feel free to reach out to us.

Respectfully yours,

The Albany Common Council

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### Join the Conversation

The Albany Common Council relies on public participation in every step of its legislative process. If you're looking to speak or write on an item on the Council's agenda, head to our website to submit a public comment. Please note that any information that you provide will be shared with all Common Council members and/or read for the Record at our meeting. All public comment is memorialized on our website and our social media platforms.

**In-Person:** 24 Eagle Street, Room 202

**Online:** <https://www.albanyny.gov/189/Albany-Common-Council>

**By Phone:** (518) 434-5087

**By Email:** [commoncouncil@albanyny.gov](mailto:commoncouncil@albanyny.gov)



## Upcoming Public Meetings

September 5, 5:30 PM	General Services, Health and Environment Committee
September 6, 5:30 PM	Finance, Assessment and Taxation Committee
September 7, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
September 11, 5:30 PM	Public Safety Committee
September 12, 5:30 PM	Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Committee
September 13, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session
September 14, 5:30 PM	Human Resources and Human Rights Committee
September 18, 6:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session Followed by Regular Meeting
September 27, 5:30 PM	Caucus/Work Session

All meetings are livestreamed and recorded on the Common Council's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages. You can find meeting agendas, the active calendar, supporting legislation and more in the Common Council's [Agenda Center](#).

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## A Constituent's Guide to the Albany Common Council, Part 3: What's in a name?

*Each month, we'll go back to basics on all things Common Council.*

Every idea that makes it through the legislative drafting process as a local law, ordinance or resolution needs a good name. City staff members title the Council's legislation with two details in mind: the type of legislation and the order of its introduction.

A local law receives a letter (A-Z) followed by the year of its introduction. The first local law introduced in 2024, for example, will be Local Law A of 2024. The second will be Local Law B of 2024, and so on. It's important to include the year of introduction when discussing local laws, as a law sharing the same letter as a law in any other year is an entirely different piece of legislation.

The titles of ordinances and resolutions involve some coding and decoding, but they allow for names that are more unique and descriptive than those of local laws. Both types of legislation receive sets of numbers that signify the order, meeting, and year of their introduction. The first set of numbers starts at 1 each January and increases with each new ordinance or resolution introduced. The second set of numbers begins with the month—April is 4, for example—and ends with a number that specifies the meeting in which the legislation was introduced within this month. If you see 5.42 in the first two sets of numbers, you know that you're looking at the fifth ordinance or resolution of a given year and that it was introduced during the second meeting in April. The third set of numbers signifies the year, and if an "R" attached to the end of the title, you know that you're looking at a resolution rather than an ordinance. So if you see 5.42.24, think of it as the fifth ordinance of 2024, introduced during the

second meeting in April. Likewise, 13.61.24R signifies the thirteenth resolution of 2024, introduced during the first meeting in June.

The full title of every piece of legislation includes a brief description of what the legislation does: the section of the [City Code](#) it modifies, the goal it expresses, the appointment it confirms, and so on. You can find these titles on the legislation itself or on current or past agendas, depending on whether the legislation is still before the Council. All of these documents are available in the [Agenda Center](#).

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## **Committee Reports**

### **PEG Access Ad-Hoc Committee**

The committee met on August 14 to discuss [Resolution 67.62.23R](#) and the [PEG Access Cable Franchise Agreement](#). The resolution moved forward with a favorable recommendation.

### **Planning, Economic Development and Land Use Committee**

The committee met on August 15 to discuss Resolution 75.71.23R, Resolution 77.71.23R and Ordinance 29.71.23, all of which can be found [here](#). The resolutions moved forward with favorable recommendations; the ordinance was held.

### **Human Resources and Human Rights Committee**

The committee met on August 22 to discuss [Ordinance 26.61.23](#), which was held.

### **Housing and Community Development Committee**

The committee met on August 31 to discuss quality of life issues faced by residents of Parkview Apartments.

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## **Legislation Passed**

### **Local Law G of 2023 Sponsored by Planning**

A local law amending the Code of the City of Albany in relation to reducing the size of the Historic Resources Commission

### **Local Law I of 2023 Sponsored by Frederick**

A local law amending Article XV (Homestead and Non-Homestead Base Proportions) of Chapter 333 (Taxation) of the Code of the City of Albany in relation to extending the repeal date of such article

### **Ordinance 11.32.23 Sponsored by Clarke**

An ordinance amending the Code of the City of Albany changing the zoning classification of 64 Colvin Avenue, 65 Colvin Avenue, 67 Colvin Avenue and 69 Colvin Avenue from "Mixed-Use Community Urban" to "Mixed-Use Neighborhood Center" and amending the zoning map accordingly

### **Ordinance 12.32.23 Sponsored by Clarke**

An ordinance amending the Code of the City of Albany regarding the maximum number of dwelling units in Mixed-Use Neighborhood Center districts

**Ordinance 17.42.23 Sponsored by Romero**

An ordinance amending the Code of the City of Albany creating an increasing fee scale and modifying the notice requirements for repeat violations of trash and litter provisions

**Ordinance 20.61.23 Sponsored by Clarke**

An ordinance authorizing and directing the grant of an easement over a portion of city-owned property at 2 Pitch Pine Road to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for the installation and maintenance of a pad-mounted recloser unit and the necessary appurtenances thereto

**Ordinance 24.61.23 Sponsored by Zamer**

An ordinance amending the Code of the City of Albany codifying the regulations around building materials and mattresses for curbside collection

**Ordinance 27.62.23 Sponsored by Frederick**

An ordinance amending Ordinance 46.112.22 (As Amended 12/22/2022) which authorized certain purchases by the City of Albany at a maximum estimated cost of \$2,000,000 and authorized the lease financing or the issuance of \$2,000,000 serial bonds of said city to pay the cost thereof (APD - Improvements to APD Facilities) by increasing such authorization to \$3,441,000

**Ordinance 31.72.23 Sponsored by Robinson**

An ordinance authorizing the sale of 177 First Street to Michael Lane

**Resolution 49.52.23R Sponsored by Balarin**

A resolution of the Common Council authorizing the City to accept conveyance of the property at 327 Washington Avenue from the State of New York for public parking and electric vehicle charging purposes

**Resolution 54.61.23R Sponsored by Finance**

A resolution approving a transfer of budgeted funds and a change in the authorized positions of the Albany Fire Department, which will affect a salary rate or salary total

**Resolution 67.62.23R Sponsored by Balarin**

A resolution reappointing Jessica Wilcox to the Public, Education, and Government Access Oversight Board

**Resolution 75.71.23R Sponsored by Balarin**

A resolution consenting to the reappointment of Glinnesa D. Gailliard, Esq., to the City of Albany Planning Board

**Resolution 84.81.32R Sponsored by Johnson**

A resolution directing the creation of a Hotspot Elimination, Assessment, and Tracking Program

**Resolution 85.82.23R Sponsored by Frederick**

A resolution authorizing the city treasurer to make a claim against the proceeds from any fire insurance policy insuring 451 Southern Boulevard under Section 22 of the General Municipal Law

**Resolution 86.82.23R Sponsored by Balarin**

A resolution in honor of LATINFEST 2023

## **Resolution 87.82.23R Sponsored by Frederick**

A resolution certifying to the commissioner of the State Department of Taxation and Finance and to the chief fiscal officer of the Albany City School District the locally-adjusted Homestead and Non-Homestead Base Proportions for school tax year 2023-24, pursuant to Article 19 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law

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For the latest information on introduced and held legislation, please visit the Common Council's [Agenda Center](#).

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