

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

SPECIAL MEETING – CITY COUNCIL

-MAY 4, 2020-

A Special meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, May 4, 2020 via web-ex.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 A.M. by the Council President.

Roll call showed the following members present: Councilmembers Stycos, Hopkins, Vargas, McAuley, Donegan, Brady, Paplauskas, Council Vice-President Favicchio and Council President Farina -9.

Absent: Council President Farina -1.

Also Present: Daniel Parrillo, Director of Administration; John Psilopoulos, Deputy Director of Administration; Robert Strom, Director of Finance; John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor; Evan Kirshenbaum, City Council Legal Counsel; David DiMaio, City Council Budget Analyst.

-MAY 4, 2020-



****AMENDED***
**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

In Accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Section 6.08, I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council to be held on **Monday, May 4, 2020** at 5:00 p.m.

Virtual Web-ex Meeting

Meeting number (access code): 625 422 797
Meeting password: 3P8tX5W3suv (37889593 from phones and video systems)

Monday, May 4, 2020
5:00 pm | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada) | 1 hr

[Join meeting](#)

Join by phone

Tap to call in from a mobile device (attendees only)
[+1-408-418-9388](tel:+14084189388) United States Toll
[Global call-in numbers](#)

Join from a video system or application

Dial [625422797](tel:625422797) @meetingsamer4.webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business

Dial [625422797](tel:625422797).meetingsamer4@lync.webex.com

at which meeting a public hearing shall be held on the following:

Operating Budget for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021:

Resolution Adopting the Operating Budget and Salary Schedule for the General Fund, the Sewer Fund, the Insurance Fund and the Capital Budget for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 and adopting the Capital Improvement Program for the four succeeding years.

Ordinance Making Annual Appropriation for the City of Cranston for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Resolution Levying and Ordering the Assessment and Collection of a Tax on Ratable Real Estate and Tangible Personal Property Pursuant to Section 6.11 of the Home Rule Charter;

Ordinance Fixing the Date When Taxes Are Assessed, Due and Payable and the Date When Unpaid Taxes Will Carry a Penalty

-MAY 4, 2020-

TO BE VOTED ON:

*Resolution ratifying the emergency COVID-19 spending authorized by the Mayor for an earlier lease agreement with Renaissance Development Corporation, any interior infrastructure improvements and any associated moving costs for the property located at 35 Sockanosset Crossroad. *Sponsored by Council Vice-President Favicchio.*

[\[click to view\]](#)

I hereby request the City Clerk to notify all Council members of the Call of the special meeting.

Executed at Cranston, Rhode Island, this 30th day of April, 2020.

/s/ Michael J Farina, Council President

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing-impaired must notify the Office of the City Clerk at 461-1000 Ext. 3197 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.”

-MAY 4, 2020-

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a true copy of the attached Notice of a Special meeting of the City Council to be held on Monday, May 4, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m. via Web-ex, was delivered via electronic mail on the 30th day of April 2020 to the addresses listed below.

Council President Michael J Farina
dukefarina@cs.com

Council Vice-President Michael W. Favicchio
mike@favilaw.com

Councilmember Steven A. Stycos
Sstycos26@gmail.com

Councilmember Kenneth J. Hopkins
Khopkins7878@gmail.com

Councilmember Edward J. Brady
Brady4cranston@gmail.com

Councilmember Paul J. McAuley
PJMCAULEY@yahoo.com

Councilmember Christopher Paplauskas
chriscopaplauskas@gmail.com

Councilmember Lammis Vargas
Lammis.vargas@gmail.com

Councilmember John Donegan
JohnDoneganForCranston@gmail.com

/s/ Rosalba Zanni
Acting City Clerk

-MAY 4, 2020-

Council President Farina asked if there is a Solicitor present and asked Director Parrillo who should be covering this meeting. Director Parrillo stated that he believes Solicitor Verdecchia was to cover this meeting and he will contact him.

Council President Farina stated that since Attorney Kirshenbaum is present, he asked that if no Solicitor is present, can we continue with the meeting? Attorney Kirshenbaum stated that Section 8.02 of the City Charter states that Solicitor shall attend all meetings of the City Council or if unable to attend, he shall assign an Assistant Solicitor to do so.

Director Parrillo stated that Solicitor Rawson is logging into the meeting as we speak.

Council President Farina stated that being in remote fashion, he thinks it is important that we follow all Charter provisions. Assistant Solicitor Verdecchia joined the meeting.

Public Comments:

No one appeared to speak from the public.

RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE EMERGENCY COVID-19 SPENDING AUTHORIZED BY THE MAYOR FOR AN EARLIER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH RENAISSANCE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, ANY INTERIOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND ANY ASSOCIATED MOVING COSTS FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 35 SOCKANOSSET CROSSROAD

Council President Farina stated that this was on the docket for the full Council meeting last month and it failed on 2/3 majority of the vote and since then, Councilmember Stycos has had a chance to tour some of the schools with the School Superintendent and had some of his questions answered.

Director Parrillo confirmed that he, Councilmember Stycos and Building Official Rodio met with Superintendent Nota-Masse and he believes some of Councilmember Stycos's questions were answered.

Councilmember Stycos stated that he did tour the school and Norwood Ave. School is not really conducive to public access. His questions were answered. His main interest was in Barrows and he realizes that this school would not be conducive because as other schools are being reconstructed, Barrows would be used to house those children. The only suggestion he has is the lease for the Sockanosset property be shortened because of the perilous financial situation the City and the State will be in due to this pandemic.

Council President Farina questioned whether this Resolution can be voted on this evening. He would prefer that the prevailing party make a motion to reconsider and then vote on the Resolution.

Attorney Kirshenbaum stated that this was voted on and failed, but it should be re-introduced as in a normal course and then heard and voted on since there was no notice to the public. The motion should be to reconsider and taken off the table.

Councilmember Stycos questioned where the lease stands now.

Attorney Kirshenbaum and **Assistant Solicitor Verdecchia** both stated this matter is not properly before the City Council and has to be submitted at a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

/s/ Rosalba Zanni
Acting City Clerk