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**BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND CONTRACT
MEETING MINUTES
HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022**

Call to Order: At 4:10 pm by Chairwoman Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard

Board Members Present: Comptroller Darren Morton, City Council President Derrick Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard (remote on zoom) (we have a quorum).

Others: City Clerk Tanesia M. Walters, Corporation Counsel Johan Powell

Absent: None

MEETING NOTICE: Clerk Walters read the meeting notice at 4:11 pm.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call and reading of agenda items administered by City Clerk Tanesia M. Walters

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTIONS APPROVING ORDINANCES:

Item No. 1 Authorizing a salary increase for the Secretary to the Board of Water Supply (from \$48,958.00 to \$55,000.00, an increase of \$6,042.00 – 2022 Budget - Account Code: 001-521-521999).

On the Question:

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 2 Reclassification for the title of “Laborer” to “Skilled Laborer” within the City’s DPW Traffic Bureau (Expenditure Code: A5110.101 – Salaries & Wages).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard noted the individuals doing this work in the MVPD, it was under “laborer” and moved over to DPW; they are receiving differential for that work, and they are incorrectly classified. The difference between “laborer” and “skilled laborer” is that the latter utilizes heavy machinery, engages in electrical work. This will correct the standard salary with the differential and bring it into line with the 456 Teamsters.

Comptroller Morton queried the ability to cover the funds, and Chairwoman Patterson-Howard noted there is a vacant “skilled laborer” position and the savings in that position will transfer to cover the 2 positions. Budget Code A5110.101.

Comptroller Morton confirmed that there is a vacant position, and discussed the cost and differential.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 3 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with A+ Technology & Security Solutions (Budget Code: A1680.405 - \$52,990.92).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard noted that we use ID cards to scan in and out of City buildings. That system has aged out, and this will replace the current ID card system and will provide greater security access.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 4 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Westchester County Office of Senior Programs and Services under Title III-B Transportation Services Contract Program - (\$41,838.00 – Revenue Code A4803.1, Budget Codes: A6774.104 and A6774.458).

On the Question:

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 5 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Giovanni Chef D’Amour Green of Break Bread Not Hearts (\$2,550.00 –Budget Code: A7326.458).

On the Question:

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 6 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the New York State Education Department/21st Century Community Learning Center (Natasha Howell, \$14,766.08 – Budget Code A7316.405 – STRONG Program).

On the Question:

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 7 Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the New York State Education Department/21st Century Community Learning Center (Akilah Radcliff, \$18,394.88 – Budget Code A7316.405 – STRONG Program).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard reflected on the 21st Century Learning Center Grant and it's support of our after school programming. We could not apply for this grant because the City's audits were not in place under the previous Comptroller.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 8 Authorizing the reallocation of funds within the Department of Planning and Community Development and requesting permission to create the position of "Associate Commissioner of Planning" - (Salary Line A8020.101 - - reallocation amount of \$85,700.33 and salary of \$105,433.00).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard noted this is a planning director's position, but the role has to do with policy creation; the role was changed from competitive to an exempt position and reclassified. Comptroller Morton noted there is no additional cost to the city, solely a reallocation of funds.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 9 Authorizing the Mayor to accept funds from the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Agency ("URA") (Budget Code: A3620.101 - \$54,481.95).

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard remarked that this is the remainder of a grant used in the URA for our code enforcement / zombie home coordinator. This position is better suited in the Buildings Department.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 10 **Authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant from New York Empire State Development (“ESD”) to update the Mount Vernon Comprehensive Economic Development Plan (Budget Code: A8020.405 - \$75,000.00)**

On the Question: Chairwoman Patterson-Howard remarked that the City’s last comprehensive plan was in the 1960’s. This grant will assist with the development of the new City Plan.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 11 **(AMENDMENTS) Amending Ordinance No. 10 adopted on February 9, 2022, entitled “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COMPTROLLER TO REFUND AN OVERPAYMENT OF 2021 TAXES TO “PRO NATIONAL TITLE AGENCY” - (\$22,324.76 – Account Code: A690).**

On the Question: Comptroller Morton explained there was a number transposed in the previous iteration of this legislation and this is a correction.

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

Item No. 12 **(SETTLEMENTS) Settling the Claim of Life Progressive Service Group, Inc. - (Budget Code A1910.469 = Insurance Claims / \$6,500.00).**

On the Question:

Response:

Ayes: Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson and Chairwoman, Mayor Patterson-Howard

Nays: None

FURTHER BUSINESS:

Comptroller Morton discussed the “red light camera” program, and the refusal of the previous Comptroller to pay the amounts due and owed. The Comptroller, Chairwoman and Council President discussed efforts to negotiate payment with the vendor, without having the payments impact 2023.

Chairwoman Patterson-Howard expressed homage to military members who lost their lives in recognition of Memorial Day, and paid condolences to families who have lost their lives to gun violence in Uvalde and across the nation. She expressed the City’s continued efforts to keep its families safe.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Thompson. Seconded by Comptroller Morton. A Roll Call was made by Clerk Walters: **Ayes:** Comptroller Morton, Council President Thompson, and Chairwoman Patterson-Howard. **Nays:** None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Donna M. Jackson, M.Ed.,
Deputy City Clerk
Entered August 17, 2022