

City of Mount Vernon, New York

*1 ROOSEVELT SQ. RM. 104
CITY HALL, MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK 10550
& VIA FACEBOOK.COM/MOUNTVERNONNY*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

7:00 PM

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL**

City Council

*NICOLE BONILLA, MBA
City Clerk*

*JORDAN A. RIULLANO, JD
Deputy City Clerk*

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF THE MOUNT VERNON CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2025.**

Scheduled for 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, Mount Vernon, New York.

**** This meeting was held in the City Council Chambers, with virtual participation via ZOOM and CMVNY Facebook. The meeting was not closed to the public.****

PRESIDING: Danielle Browne, President

OTHERS: Nicole Bonilla, Deputy City Clerk; Antoinette Anderson, Legislative Aide; Johan Powell, Deputy Corporation Counsel.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lead by Deputy City Clerk Nicole Bonilla

PRESENT: President Danielle Browne Esq., Acting Pro Tempore Derrick Thompson, Councilperson Jaevon Boxhill, and Councilperson Cathlin Gleason

ABSENT: Pro Tempore Edward Poteat

Council President Danielle Browne called the meeting to order and provided general house-keeping rules, including encouraging citizens to share the meeting on social media and what to do “in case of emergency”. Council President Browne explained the 3-minute-plus-1 public comment rule. She then asked a Councilperson to lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council President then proceeded to the Public Speakers session of the evening (listed below as public comment).

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Tamara Steward, Mount Vernon, NY (No Show 7:05 PM)

Topic - curb cuts at Westchester Plaza

Council Response: Councilman Gleason - discussed how she spoke with this constituent already and DPW will assist with the application process.

2. Paul Colley, Mount Vernon, NY (No Show 7:05 PM & 7:10 PM)

Topic - City issues

3. Chris McDonough, Mount Vernon, NY (7:05 PM)

Topic - Constance G. Post appointment

Council Response:

Councilman Boxhill - expressed his concern with the appointment of Constance Post to the Mount Vernon Economic Development Task Force (EDTF) and that he did not add this to the agenda, the co-chair override and added this appointment to the agenda.

Councilman Gleason - I understand the concern and appreciate you reaching out. I don't think peoples past dictates their future and I believe in second chances. I will always stand up for someone who has done something in their past and has made a change. She has valuable information and knowledge to help the city of Mount Vernon. I have worked with her in the past and he has institutional knowledge and has worked with a lot of the developers in the city.

Councilman Thompson - I agree with CM Gleason, everyone deserves a second chance. We can't judge someone on the past mistakes they have made. Unfortunately, they have a record but we should not hold back everything else they can be an asset to, regardless of the mistakes. We have elected officials who have made mistakes who have made a change and are doing good things with their second chances.

There should be oversight but we have to give people second chances. Mr. McDonough you are on the school board, some might say you should not be on the school board because of your outburst and behavior tonight, but we should not be so judgmental with people.

Council President Browne - I will be approving her appointment because she has contributed significantly to the city and she has a record of decades of knowledge and just from the interview I learned more from her than anyone in city hall. We created this task force so we can have tactical information. She is only there for information, she does not have approval power, she can only give recommendations. That is the expertise we are looking for. Her perspective is one of many, there are other people on the task force.

4. Peter Tsachalis, Mount Vernon, NY (No Show)

Topic - still nothing

Council Response:

CM Gleason - Spoke with Pete this afternoon and gave him information on his licensing and the process of setting up a meeting with the chair of Public Safety Codes and myself.

REFERRAL SESSION

PRESENT: President Danielle Browne Esq., Acting Pro Tempore Derrick Thompson, Councilperson Jaevon Boxhill, and Councilperson Cathlin Gleason

ABSENT: Pro Tempore Edward Poteat

Enter into Executive Session 7:17 PM

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

go into Executive Session

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

Exit Executive Session 7:40 PM

approved

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND ACTION THEREON

Roll Call administered by Deputy City Clerk Nicole Bonilla

PRESENT: President Danielle Browne Esq., Acting Pro Tempore Derrick Thompson, Councilperson Jaevon Boxhill, and Councilperson Cathlin Gleason

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Nay: None
Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

[TMP-1212](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [VxRal Maintenance Contract Retro Award Cit 2-26-2025.pdf](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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[TMP-1215](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [Readyly Pilot Contract and Payment City Coun 2-26-2025.pdf](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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[TMP-1214](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [Equipment Disposal 1st Qtr 2025.pdf](#)
[Disposal List 2-13-2025.pdf](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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5. [TMP-1198](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [Combo Truck](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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6. [TMP-1200](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [Edison Avenue Pump Station Upgrade Project-\(Contract 12222024\)](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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7. [TMP-1201](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [Edison Ave Pump Station Upgrade Project- Eq Contract 122232024](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

To the Council:

The **PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODES** Committee recommends for **ADOPTION** the following entitled legislation:

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8. [TMP-1227](#)

Code: PSC

Attachments: [MWolfe-RefferalLetter](#)

Moved: Councilman Thompson, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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9. [TMP-1226](#)

Code: PSC

Attachments: [Referral Letter from the Office of the Mayor - I Association of the City of Mount Vernon Local Contract](#)

Moved: Councilman Thompson, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

To the Council:

The **FINANCE AND PLANNING** Committee recommends for **ADOPTION** the following entitled legislation:

() 10. [TMP-1220](#)

Code: FP

Attachments: [ReferraltrMRB20250001](#)

Moved: Councilman Boxhill, **Seconded** by Councilman Thompson

On the question: none.

Response: none.

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

ADD-ON

To the Council:

The **FINANCE AND PLANNING** Committee recommends for **ADOPTION** the following entitled legislation:

() 12. [TMP-1232](#)

Code: FP

Attachments: [Constance G Post](#)

Moved: Councilman Thompson, **Seconded:** Councilman

Gleason

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: Councilperson Boxhill

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

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13. [TMP-1233](#)

Code: FP

Attachments: [City Council Appointments](#)

Moved: Councilman Thompson, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

To the Council:

The **LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC WORKS** Committee recommends for **ADOPTION** the following entitled legislation:

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14. [TMP-1237](#)

Code: LPW

Attachments: [Referral Letter - R. Thomas Umstead 02-25-20](#)

Moved: Councilman Gleason, **Seconded:** Councilman Boxhill

On the question: none

Response: none

adopted

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

OTHER BUSINESS/CLOSING COMMENTS

Councilman Gleason - Back in November and at the last meeting, we had Mr. Welsh and parking on Hutchinson Blvd and the parking situation. I worked with DPW and we are trying a pilot on where the residents park on the opposite side of the street. The parking bureau is aware of the change.

Councilman Thompson- Next week is the fundraiser for the young girl. Stop at any Mount Vernon school building to contribute to the fundraiser.

Motion to adjourn

Moved: Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Gleason

approved

Aye: President Browne, Acting Pro Tempore Thompson, Councilperson Boxhill, and Councilperson Gleason

Nay: None

Absent: Pro Tempore Poteat

There being no other further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Jordan Riullano, JD
Deputy City Clerk