

City of Mount Vernon, New York

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



Meeting Agenda - Final

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

3:00 PM

MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM - 1st FLOOR

Board of Estimate & Contract

NICOLE BONILLA, M.B.A.
City Clerk

JORDAN A. RIULLANO, J.D.
Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order: At 3:00 PM by Chairwoman Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard

- Roll Call: Roll Call and reading of agenda items administered by City Clerk Nicole Bonilla.
Noticed in the Journal News.
- OTHERS: Chief of Staff Malcolm Clark, Asst. Corporation Counsel Johan Powell, City Clerk Nicole Bonilla, Assistant Comptroller Condell Hamilton

OPENING OF BID FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS APPROVING ORDINANCES

1. Office of the Mayor: An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative
2. Department of Public Works: An Ordinance Authorizing the Amendment of Article IX, Section 105-B, entitled "Abatement of Nuisance" of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon
3. Department of Public Works: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Land Lease Agreement with Max Johl of Positive Pup Playgroup for the External Area of the Animal Shelter Located at 600 Garden Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550
4. Department of Public Works: An Ordinance Authorizing the Attendance of the Department of Public Works Skilled Laborer Bryan Whitley at the Traffic Signal Technician Training Through the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA), and Authorizing Expenditure of Funds for such Purpose
5. Department of Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing the Creation of an Additional Recreation Assistant Position in the Department of Recreation, Reallocating Funds from an Existing Position, and Amending the Adopted 2025 Budget Accordingly
6. Department of Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing the Department of Recreation to Co-Sponsor the 2025 "4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament" in Partnership with 4th Street Classic Basketball and Groovey Lou, and Officially Renaming 4th Street Park to "Gus Williams Park"
7. Department of Public Safety: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Partner with Westchester County on the STRIVE Initiative under the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Service (DCJS)
8. Office of the Comptroller: An Ordinance Authorizing a Budget Transfer from Contingency to City Council Outside Contracted Services to Support Legal Services for the Charter Review Commission - (COMP2025-8)

9. Department of Buildings: An Ordinance Authorizing the Reallocation of Funds from the Code Enforcement Officer Position to Fund a Temporary Help Position in the Department of Buildings
10. Comptroller: An Ordinance Establishing a Temporary Tax Interest Amnesty Program for Commercial Properties - (COMP2025-09)

REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE PARTIAL PAYMENT - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

11. Department of Public Works: A Resolution Authorizing Partial Payment No. 13 for Sewer System Rehabilitation - Phase 1 to National Water Main Cleaning Company

RETAINER

12. Engagement Letter - to retain the Oxman Law Group, PLLC
13. A Resolution Authorizing the Retention of the Law Office of Kristen K. Wilson, as Special Counsel to Assist the Charter Revision Committee

SETTLEMENTS

14. Settlement of Claim of Cynthia McMullen - (\$950.00)
15. Settlement of Claim of Geico a/s/o Toi Williams-Lloyd - (\$7,000.00)
16. Settlement of Claim of Allstate Insurance Company, as Subrogee of Bennet Fox - (17,000.00)
17. Settlement Claim of filed by Leticia Sotero - (80,000.00)
18. Settlement of Claim of Kamil Mamak - (4,783.73)

TAX REVIEW SETTLEMENTS

19. Resolution for Tax Settlement - 60 West Broad Street Inc. - \$58,123.67
20. Resolution for Tax Settlement - 210 West LLC - for property located at 135 Sindey Avenue - \$3,317.24
21. Resolution for Tax Settlement - 210 West LLC - for property located at 139 Sindey Avenue - \$3,856.45
22. Resolution for Tax Settlement - 41 South Avenue R.E. Corp. - \$2,762.68

Agenda was concluded at ____ PM

Chairwoman Patterson-Howard asked if there was new business:

Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at _____

MAY 20 2025

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Execution of an Updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative— (the updated MOU shall not impose any financial obligation on the City, as the Fellow’s services are provided through the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative at *no* cost to the City of Mount Vernon); be, and the same is hereby approved.

HELD

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT

Clerk

MAY 14 2025

2

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION OF AN UPDATED MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE BLOOMBERG
HARVARD CITY LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

Whereas, by letter dated April 21, 2025, the Mayor has requested legislation authorizing her to execute the updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Mount Vernon and the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, in substantially the form presented to the City Council and attached hereto; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon, through the leadership of the Patterson-Howard Administration, has established a valuable partnership with the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government; and

Whereas, this partnership has facilitated the placement of a Bloomberg Harvard City Hall Fellow in the City of Mount Vernon's Buildings Department, providing critical operational support at no cost to the City; and

Whereas, the services rendered by the Fellow have significantly contributed to the administration's strategic goals of improving departmental efficiency, enhancing service delivery, and supporting policy development within City operations; and

Whereas, the Bloomberg Harvard team has issued updated grant award language and provided a revised Memorandum of Understanding to ensure compliance with current grant reporting and administrative standards; and

Whereas, while the substance of the fellowship and the City's obligations remain unchanged, the updated MOU reflects necessary technical revisions to align with the Initiative's current requirements; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

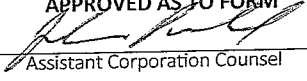
Section 1. Authorization to Execute Updated MOU. The Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized to execute the updated Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Mount Vernon and the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, in substantially the form presented to the City Council and attached hereto.

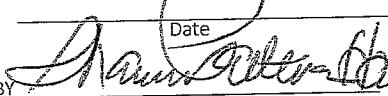
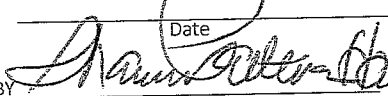
Section 2. Ratification of Prior Acts. All actions heretofore taken by the Mayor, the Buildings Department, or other officers or employees of the City in connection with the Bloomberg Harvard City Hall Fellowship are hereby ratified and confirmed.

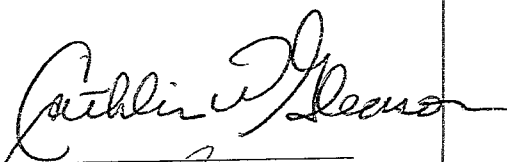
Section 3. No Fiscal Impact. Executing the updated MOU shall not impose any financial obligation on the City, as the Fellow's services are provided through the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative at no cost to the City of Mount Vernon.


Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.


Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/15/2025
Boxhill: Yea Browne: Yea
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea
Poteat: Absent Ordinance: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED
Date 
BY 
Mayor


Cathlin Gleason
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST:

Michelle Bonilla
City Clerk

2

MAY 20 2025

2

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Amendment of Article IX, Section 105-B, entitled "Abatement of Nuisance" of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon; be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

2

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF
ARTICLE IX, SECTION 105-B, ENTITLED "ABATEMENT OF
NUISANCE" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON

Whereas, by letter dated April 17, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works has requested legislation authorizing Amendment to Article IX - The Department of Public Works; § 105-B- Abatement of Nuisance of the City of Mount Vernon Municipal Code; and

The City of Mount Vernon, in the City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Section 105-B of Chapter IX of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon, entitled "Abatement of Nuisance," is hereby amended as follows:

Article IX. -Department of Public Works

§ 105-B. Abatement of Nuisance.

§ 105-B- Abatement of Nuisance

[Added by L.L. No. 2-1929; amended by L.L. No. 3-1942; L.L. No. 2-1962; L.L. No. 5-1962; L.L. No. 3-1964; L.L. No. 2-1970; L.L. No. 1-1972; L.L. No. 7-1980^{III}; L.L. No. 1-1981; L.L. No. 1-1986; 8-9-2023]

The Commissioner of Public Works shall have the power to enter upon property, both public and private, and to remove accumulations of rubbish and deleterious matter therefrom, to fill in depressions where water is likely to gather and stagnate, and to abate any other conditions creating or tending to create a condition detrimental to the health, safety and general welfare of the immediate neighborhood or the public at large. Where the owner of property upon which any accumulations of rubbish and deleterious matter or depression or condition detrimental to health, safety and general welfare exists [shall] fails to abate, remove or fill in the same within [five days] forty-eight (48) hours after written notice so to do has been served upon him either personally or by delivering the same at his last known place of residence, or if he be a nonresident, by mailing the same to him at his last known place of residence, or if the name of the owner or his place of residence cannot be ascertained after due diligence, by posting the same in a conspicuous place upon the premises, the Commissioner of Public Works shall impose a fine/penalty of [no less than \$500.00 and not more than \$3,000.00 for each violation] \$750 for a first offense; \$1,500 for a second offense; and \$3,000 for each subsequent offense (third and any thereafter) and/or have said rubbish and deleterious matter removed and depressions filled in and conditions abated, either by the Department of Public Works or by hiring a private contractor, subject, however, to the laws pertaining to public bidding. In the event that the Department of Public Works is so employed, it shall, upon completion of the work of such removal, filling in or abatement, send to the owner of the property upon which said work has been done whose name appears on the last assessment roll, a bill for the value of the work done and the expense incurred.

The purpose of imposing an associated fine structure is to support enforcing city ordinances that optimize the quality of life. Public education and outreach will always be our first step, but enforcement must be established to prosecute chronic violators of the City's ordinances. Other Municipalities are prepared to impose hefty fines and penalties on chronic violators of the abatement of nuisance ordinance. Various factors, such as health, environmental impact, infestation, blight, and property values, are affected when we do not effectively address nuisances. The amendment of this Ordinance will demand zero tolerance for blighted properties throughout the City.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

New Matter Underlined
Deleted Matter in Brackets []

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

Date

BY

Mayor

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

MAY 20 2025

3

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing Mayor to Enter into a Land Lease Agreement with Max Johl of Positive Pup Playgroup for the External Area of the Animal Shelter Located at 600 Garden Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550 - (fixed term of one (1) year, commencing May 15, 2025 and ending May 14, 2026, at a monthly rental rate of \$1,200.00, with revenues deposited under City Revenue Code A2410 (Rental of Real Property, for the external area of the Animal Shelter located at 600 Garden Avenue)); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT



Clerk

MAY 14 2025
5

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A LAND LEASE
AGREEMENT WITH MAX JOHL OF POSITIVE
PUP PLAYGROUP FOR THE EXTERNAL AREA
OF THE ANIMAL SHELTER LOCATED AT 600
GARDEN AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON, NY 10550

Whereas, in a letter dated April 25, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works formally requested the authorization for the Mayor, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, to enter into a land lease agreement with Mr. Max Johl, doing business as Positive Pup Playgroup, for the external area of the Animal Shelter located at 600 Garden Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon owns real property located at 600 Garden Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550, which includes an Animal Shelter with adjacent external space suitable for public-private use; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Works (DPW) of the City of Mount Vernon has identified an opportunity to lease said external area to Mr. Max Johl, operating as Positive Pup Playgroup, to provide a secure and supervised environment for dogs to play, socialize, and receive light training; and

Whereas, the lease of this space will allow for a productive use of currently underutilized City-owned land and aligns with the City's goals to promote pet-friendly services and responsible dog ownership within the community; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Works has recommended approval of this lease agreement, which includes financial benefits to the City through monthly rental income and requires the lessee to maintain the leased premises; and

Whereas, the lease agreement will be for a fixed term of one (1) year, commencing May 15, 2025 and ending May 14, 2026, at a monthly rental rate of \$1,200.00, with revenues deposited under City Revenue Code A2410 (Rental of Real Property); **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization. The City Council authorizes the Mayor, on behalf of the Department of Public Works, to enter into a land lease agreement with Mr. Max Johl, doing business as Positive Pup Playgroup, for the external area of the Animal Shelter located at 600 Garden Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550.

Section 2. Lease Terms.

The lease shall:

- Begin on May 15, 2025, and expire on May 14, 2026;
- Require monthly rent payments of \$1,200.00 due on the 1st of each month;
- Limit the use of the leased premises solely for dog play, socialization, and light training;
- Prohibit any other use not specifically permitted under the lease;
- Require Positive Pup Playgroup to maintain the leased premises in a clean, safe, and orderly condition in accordance with the agreement.

5

Section 3. Revenue Designation. All revenues derived from this lease shall be deposited under the Revenue Code A2410 (Rental of Real Property).

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval from the Board of Estimate & Contract.


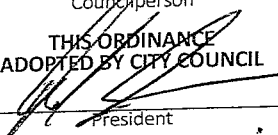

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/15/2025
Boxhill: Yea Browne: Yea
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea
Poteat: Absent Ordinance: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED
Date

BY  Mayor


Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President
ATTEST:

City Clerk

MAY 20 2025

4

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Attendance of the Department of Public Works Skilled Laborer Bryan Whitley at the Traffic Signal Technician Training Through the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA), and Authorizing Expenditure of Funds for such Purpose - (June 15-19, 2025; cost of attendance is \$1,600.00 and sufficient funds are available in the City Budget under line item A8170.405); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT



Clerk

4

7

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ATTENDANCE
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SKILLED LABORER BRYAN WHITLEY AT THE
TRAFFIC SIGNAL TECHNICIAN TRAINING THROUGH
THE INTERNATIONAL MUNICIPAL SIGNAL
ASSOCIATION (IMSA), AND AUTHORIZING
EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

Whereas, in a letter dated May 6, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works formally requested the authorization for attendance of Department of Public Works Skilled Laborer Bryan Whitley at the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) Traffic Signal Technician Training program scheduled for June 15–19, 2025; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to the safe and effective installation, operation, and maintenance of its traffic signal systems for the protection and benefit of its residents and road users; and

Whereas, the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) offers a nationally recognized Traffic Signal Technician Training program designed to enhance professional competency in traffic control systems; and

Whereas, the City recognizes the importance of certifying staff to nationally accepted standards to ensure that municipal traffic infrastructure is installed and maintained using the best and safest practices; and

Whereas, Bryan Whitley, a Skilled Laborer in the Department of Public Works, has been selected to attend a four-day IMSA training course, taking place from June 15th to June 19th, 2025, which includes Temporary Traffic Control and Traffic Signal Technician I certification and examination; and

Whereas, the total cost of attendance is \$1,600.00 and sufficient funds are available in the City Budget under line item A8170.405; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization. The City Council authorizes and approves the attendance of Department of Public Works Skilled Laborer Bryan Whitley at the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) Traffic Signal Technician Training program scheduled for June 15–19, 2025.

Section 2. Expenditure of Funds. The City Comptroller is authorized to disburse up to \$1,600.00, charged to Budget Code A8170.405, to cover training, registration, and examination fees related to the IMSA program.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.


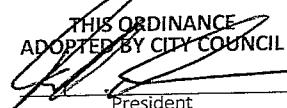

Boxhill: Yea
Gleason: Yea
Poteat: Absent
Browne: Yea
Thompson: Yea
Ordinance: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED
Date

Mayor


Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President
ATTEST:

City Clerk

7

MAY 20 2025

5

RESOLVED, that a resolution adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Creation of an Additional Recreation Assistant Position in the Department of Recreation, Reallocating Funds from an Existing Position, and Amending the Adopted 2025 Budget Accordingly – (funding for the Recreation Assistant position shall be reallocated from the existing Bus Driver position currently budgeted under Budget Code A7021.101. The new hire shall be compensated at Step 7 of the Grade 1 pay scale and the reallocation of salary funds from A7021.101 to A7020.101 to accommodate this staffing change); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

5

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
CREATION OF AN ADDITIONAL RECREATION
ASSISTANT POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
RECREATION, REALLOCATING FUNDS FROM AN
EXISTING POSITION, AND AMENDING THE
ADOPTED 2025 BUDGET ACCORDINGLY

Whereas, in a letter dated May 5, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Recreation formally requested authorization for the addition of one (1) full-time Recreation Assistant position within the Department of Recreation. Said position shall be classified as a union position, Grade 1, under Civil Service rules and regulations, and shall be placed under Budget Code A7020.101; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon has conducted a comprehensive review of staffing levels and operational needs within the Department of Recreation; and

Whereas, this review has determined that the addition of one (1) Recreation Assistant is urgently needed to ensure the continued effectiveness and compliance of daily operations within the department; and

Whereas, the Recreation Assistant position is a union position classified as Grade 1, with a salary range of \$38,441.17 to \$53,678.62, and the proposed new hire will be placed at Step 7 of this salary schedule; and

Whereas, funding for the proposed position will be reallocated from an existing and currently budgeted Bus Driver position under Budget Code A7021.101; and

Whereas, this staffing adjustment is essential to maintain compliance with Civil Service requirements and to support the delivery of vital recreational services to the residents of Mount Vernon; and

Whereas, it is necessary to amend the adopted 2025 budget to reflect the creation of this new position and corresponding funding adjustments; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization of Position. The City Council hereby authorizes the addition of one (1) full-time **Recreation Assistant** position within the Department of Recreation. Said position shall be classified as a union position, Grade 1, under Civil Service rules and regulations, and shall be placed under Budget Code A7020.101.

Section 2. Funding Source. Funding for the Recreation Assistant position shall be reallocated from the existing **Bus Driver** position currently budgeted under Budget Code A7021.101. The new hire shall be compensated at Step 7 of the Grade 1 pay scale.

Section 3. Budget Amendment. The adopted 2025 City Budget is hereby amended to reflect:

- The addition of one (1) Recreation Assistant under A7020.101;
- The reallocation of salary funds from A7021.101 to A7020.101 to accommodate this staffing change.

Section 4. Future Budget Incorporation. The Recreation Assistant position, as authorized herein, shall be included in all future operational budgets for the Department of Recreation unless otherwise amended by the City Council.

Section 5. Documentation and Compliance. The Department of Recreation shall provide all necessary documentation to the City Council and the Office of the Comptroller to ensure compliance and proper execution of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

Date

Mayor

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST

City Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 17-0
Boxhill: Yea
Browne: Yea
Gleason: Yea
Poteat: Absent
Thompson: Yea
Ordinance: Adopted

MAY 20 2025

6

RESOLVED, that a resolution adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Department of Recreation to Co-Sponsor the 2025 "4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament" in Partnership with 4th Street Classic Basketball and Groovey Lou, and Officially Renaming 4th Street Park to "Gus Williams Park" – (beginning June 21, 2025, and concluding August 28, 2025, with games held from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost to the City shall not exceed \$2,000, to be allocated from Budget Code A7310.104, for limited staffing needs, including coverage for absences and potential additional staffing); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

6

AY 14 2025

10

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT
OF RECREATION TO CO-SPONSOR THE 2025 "4TH
STREET CLASSIC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT"
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 4TH STREET CLASSIC
BASKETBALL AND GROOVEY LOU, AND
OFFICIALLY RENAMING 4TH STREET PARK
TO "GUS WILLIAMS PARK".**

Whereas, by letter dated May 9, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Recreation has requested legislative authorization to co-sponsor and support the 2025 "4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament" (the "Tournament"), in partnership with 4th Street Classic Basketball and Groovey Lou; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon values community-driven initiatives that engage its youth in safe, structured, and enriching programs; and

Whereas, the Department of Recreation has requested authorization to co-sponsor the 2025 "4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament" in partnership with 4th Street Classic Basketball and Groovey Lou; and

Whereas, the tournament is scheduled to take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays beginning June 21, 2025, and concluding August 28, 2025, with games held from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and

Whereas, the event is aimed at promoting positive engagement among youth aged 14 to 19, while revitalizing the city's long-standing basketball tradition; and

Whereas, the tournament will commence with an Opening Day celebration and ceremonial tip-off on June 21, 2025, during which the 4th Street Park will be officially renamed "Gus Williams Park" in honor of NBA legend and Mount Vernon native Gus Williams; and

Whereas, a temporary sign will be installed on June 21, 2025, to reflect the new name, with a permanent sign to be placed upon completion of park renovations; and

Whereas, the Department of Recreation will provide logistical support including equipment such as tables, chairs, inflatable amusements, and access to the Doles Center for restrooms, cooling stations, and refreshments; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Works has raised no objections to the use of the park on the specified dates and times; and

Whereas, the tournament organizers will provide liability insurance for the full duration of the event and will submit a finalized game schedule to the City; and

Whereas, the cost to the City shall not exceed \$2,000, to be allocated from Budget Code A7310.104, for limited staffing needs, including coverage for absences and potential additional staffing; and

Whereas, the Mount Vernon Police Department has reviewed and recommended approval of the event and will assign appropriate supervisory and patrol coverage, including auxiliary police presence; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

10

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization to Co-Sponsor. The City of Mount Vernon hereby authorizes the Department of Recreation to co-sponsor the 2025 "4th Street Classic Basketball Tournament" in partnership with 4th Street Classic Basketball and Groovey Lou.

Section 2. Tournament Schedule and Location. The tournament shall be held at the basketball courts located at 4th Street Park (to be renamed "Gus Williams Park") on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from June 21, 2025, through August 28, 2025, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Section 3. Renaming of the Park. Effective June 21, 2025, 4th Street Park shall be officially renamed "Gus Williams Park" in honor of Mount Vernon native and NBA legend Gus Williams. A temporary sign shall be placed on that date, with a permanent sign installed upon the completion of park renovations.

Section 4. City Support and Logistics. The Department of Recreation shall provide necessary logistical support, including equipment (tables, chairs, inflatable amusements), and access to the Doles Center for amenities such as restrooms, cooling stations, and refreshments.

Section 5. Insurance and Schedule Submission. The tournament organizers shall provide full insurance coverage for the duration of the event and submit a finalized game schedule to the Department of Recreation before the start of the tournament.

Section 6. Funding. City support shall not exceed \$2,000 and shall be drawn from Budget Code A7310.104. This funding shall be used solely for staffing and support related to the event.

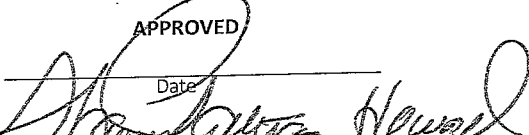
Section 7. Public Safety. The Mount Vernon Police Department shall assign a sector car and a supervisor to monitor the event series, and auxiliary police shall be present to ensure public safety and orderly conduct.

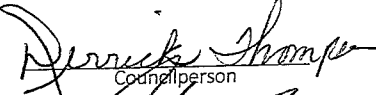
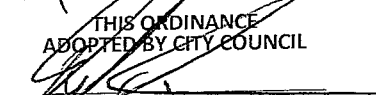
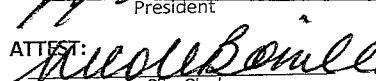
Section 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Approval.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/15/2025
 Boxhill: Yea Browne: Yea
 Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea
 Poteat: Absent Ordinance: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

 Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED
 Date

 Mayor


 Councilperson
 THIS ORDINANCE
 ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

 President
 ATTEST:

 City Clerk

MAY 20 2025

7

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Partner with Westchester County on the STRIVE Initiative under the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Service (DCJS); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

7

13

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR
TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING (MOU) TO PARTNER WITH
WESTCHESTER COUNTY ON THE STRIVE
INITIATIVE UNDER THE NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES (DCJS)**

Whereas, in a letter dated April 2, 2025, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety formally requested authorization for the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Westchester County and any other required entities for participation in the STRIVE Initiative, as administered by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS); and

Whereas, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) has launched the Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) initiative to combat domestic and intimate partner violence through a comprehensive and coordinated response; and

Whereas, the STRIVE initiative is modeled after the successful Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) program and similarly requires jurisdictions to adopt evidence-based strategies and collaborate with community stakeholders to achieve measurable outcomes in public safety and victim support; and

Whereas, Westchester County has been selected as a STRIVE jurisdiction and is in the process of developing an expanded crisis intervention team to identify and assist families at the highest risk of deadly domestic violence; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon has been identified as a secondary jurisdiction within the County's STRIVE initiative and will benefit from participation in the program through enhanced crisis intervention resources, data-informed strategies, and strengthened community partnerships; and

Whereas, participation in STRIVE aligns with the City's commitment to protecting victims and survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence and improving its public safety infrastructure through collaborative and evidence-driven practices; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization. The Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Westchester County and any other required entities for participation in the STRIVE Initiative, as administered by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).

Section 2. Terms and Conditions. The MOU shall detail the roles, responsibilities, and obligations of the City in the implementation of the STRIVE Initiative, including but not limited to data sharing, strategic planning, training, inter-agency coordination, and active involvement of community and victim service organizations. The MOU shall be subject to review and approval by the Corporation Counsel prior to execution.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

Date

Mayor

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/15/2025
Boxhill: Yea Browne: Yea
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea
Potat: Absent Ordinance: Adopted

13

MAY 20 2025

8

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing a Budget Transfer from Contingency to City Council Outside Contracted Services to Support Legal Services for the Charter Review Commission - (COMP2025-8) – (\$25,000.00 from Budget Code A1990.493 – Contingency to Budget Code A1010.405 – City Council Outside Contracted Services (Charter Review)); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

8

16

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A BUDGET
TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY TO CITY
COUNCIL OUTSIDE CONTRACTED SERVICES
TO SUPPORT LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE
CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION (COMP2025-8)

Whereas, in a letter dated May 7, 2025, the Comptroller formally requested authorization for the transfer of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) from Budget Code A1990.493 – Contingency to Budget Code A1010.405 – City Council Outside Contracted Services (Charter Review); and

Whereas, the Charter Review Commission of the City of Mount Vernon has undertaken the critical task of evaluating and proposing potential amendments to the City Charter; and

Whereas, the Commission has submitted a legal services retainer to engage outside counsel to assist in the preparation and drafting of proposed Charter amendments; and

Whereas, the current budget allocation under A1010.405 – City Council Outside Contracted Services (Charter Review) is insufficient to cover the anticipated legal expenses; and

Whereas, a review of existing budget lines, including those within the Law Department's Outside Contracted Services, determined that no discretionary funds are available to absorb the cost; and

Whereas, in the absence of a finalized scope of legal work or cost projection, a conservative estimate has been prepared projecting \$24,000 in legal fees based on 20 hours per week over four weeks at a rate of \$300 per hour; and

Whereas, it is prudent to transfer \$25,000 from Budget Code A1990.493 – Contingency to A1010.405 – City Council Outside Contracted Services (Charter Review) to ensure sufficient funding and prevent a budget overrun; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Budget Transfer Authorization. The City Council authorizes and directs the transfer of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) from Budget Code A1990.493 – Contingency to Budget Code A1010.405 – City Council Outside Contracted Services (Charter Review).

Section 2. Purpose of Funds. The funds transferred under this Ordinance shall be used exclusively to engage legal services in support of the Charter Review Commission's efforts to draft proposed amendments to the City Charter.



Section 3. Oversight and Monitoring. The Department of Finance shall monitor the disbursement and use of these funds. Should the Charter Review Commission require additional funding for legal services beyond the amount authorized herein, a formal request must be submitted to the Office of the Comptroller for consideration.


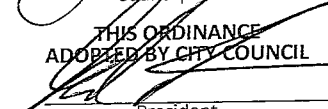
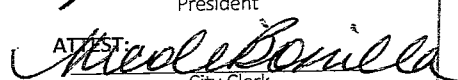
Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/15/2025
Boxhill: Yea Browne: Yea
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea
Poteat: Absent Ordinance: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED
Date

BY 
Mayor


Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President
ATTEST:

City Clerk


MAY 20 2025

9

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 14, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 15, 2025, authorizing the Reallocation of Funds from the Code Enforcement Officer Position to Fund a Temporary Help Position in the Department of Buildings – (\$21,000.00 from Budget Code A3620.101, Salaries and Wages to A3620.104, Temporary Help, to fund a Temporary Help position); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

9

20

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REALLOCATION
OF FUNDS FROM THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
POSITION TO FUND A TEMPORARY HELP POSITION
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Whereas, by letter dated May 12, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Buildings has requested authorization to transfer the amount of Twenty-One Thousand Dollars (\$21,000.00) from Budget Code A3620.101 (Salaries and Wages) to A3620.104 (Temporary Help), within the FY2025 budget, to fund a Temporary Help position; and

Whereas, the Department of Buildings is experiencing a seasonal influx of building permit applications as constituents prepare for spring and summer construction activity; and

Whereas, the volume of permit applications during this period imposes a significant administrative burden on existing staff, thereby potentially delaying timely processing and review; and

Whereas, the Department of Buildings has determined that the temporary employment of an administrative support worker would provide necessary relief to ensure efficient operations; and

Whereas, funding for this temporary help can be sourced by reallocating unexpended salary appropriations from the Code Enforcement Officer position within the Department's existing FY2025 budget; and

Whereas, the City Council deems it to be in the best interest of the City to allow this internal transfer of funds to maintain responsive and effective municipal services during this critical period; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization to Transfer Funds. The Department of Buildings is hereby authorized to transfer the amount of Twenty-One Thousand Dollars (\$21,000.00) from Budget Code A3620.101 (Salaries and Wages) to A3620.104 (Temporary Help), to fund a Temporary Help position.

Section 2. Creation of Temporary Position. A Temporary Help position is hereby authorized within the Department of Buildings to provide administrative assistance during the high-demand season for building permit applications.

Section 3. Compensation. The Temporary Help position shall be compensated at the rate of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) per hour. Employment under this ordinance shall be temporary and shall not exceed the reallocated budgeted amount.

Section 4. Duration. The Temporary Help position authorized under this ordinance shall remain in effect for the duration of the seasonal workload, or until the allocated funds are expended, whichever comes first.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Approval.

Vote Taken As Follows: 5/15/2025
Boxhill: Yea Browne: Yea
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea
Potat: Absent Ordinance: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

Date

Mayor

Derrick Thompson
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

MAY 20 2025

10

RESOLVED, that an ordinance adopted by the City Council on May 19, 2025, and signed by the Mayor on May 19, 2025, authorizing the establishment of a Temporary Tax Interest Amnesty Program for Commercial Properties - (COMP2025-09) - (shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect through June 13, 2025, unless extended or amended by subsequent ordinance); be, and the same is hereby approved.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

10

MAY 19 2025

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY
TAX INTEREST AMNESTY PROGRAM FOR
COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES – (COMP2025-09)**

Whereas, in a letter dated April 16, 2025, the Comptroller requested authorization to establish a temporary tax interest amnesty program for qualified commercial property owners in the City of Mount Vernon to resolve outstanding real property tax liabilities in exchange for partial forgiveness of accrued interest and penalties; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon previously adopted a Tax Amnesty Program for owner-occupied one-, two-, and three-family properties, beginning in 2023 and extended into 2024 and 2025, to support residential taxpayers in settling outstanding real property tax obligations; and

Whereas, this owner-occupied program excluded commercial properties, despite increasing requests and financial hardship expressed by commercial property owners within the City; and

Whereas, the City acknowledges the economic challenges commercial property owners continue to face, particularly in the wake of continued economic instability and rising operational costs; and

Whereas, the City Administration has proposed a limited-time interest and penalty abatement program to encourage commercial property owners to bring their tax accounts current and avoid lien enforcement actions and potential foreclosure proceedings scheduled to begin in late June 2025; and

Whereas, such a program would enable the City to recover principal tax revenue, increase short-term cash flow, reduce the City's backlog of delinquent taxes, and avoid the administrative burden of lien enforcement and foreclosure; and

Whereas, the City Council finds it in the public interest to offer a tax interest amnesty program to eligible commercial property owners to promote compliance, support local commerce, and enhance the City's fiscal stability; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Title. This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "2025 Commercial Property Tax Interest Amnesty Ordinance."

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish a temporary tax interest amnesty program for qualified commercial property owners in the City of Mount Vernon to resolve outstanding real property tax liabilities in exchange for partial forgiveness of accrued interest and penalties.

Section 3. Definitions.

For purposes of this Ordinance:

- **"Qualified Commercial Property"** means real property classified as non-residential and not owner-occupied one-, two-, or three-family homes.
- **"Delinquent Taxes"** means any unpaid City, County, or School taxes that have gone to lien as of the effective date of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Amnesty Program Established. There is hereby established a temporary Tax Interest Amnesty Program for commercial properties, effective upon adoption of this Ordinance and expiring at the close of business on June 13, 2025.

Section 5. Program Eligibility.

To be eligible for the program, the property owner must:

1. Own a Qualified Commercial Property within the City of Mount Vernon;
2. Be current on the following tax obligations:
 - o City and County real property taxes for tax years 2023 through 2025; and
 - o School taxes for tax years 2020 through 2024;
3. Submit a completed Amnesty Program application to the City Comptroller's Office on or before June 13, 2025;
4. Pay 100% of the outstanding principal tax balance owed prior to:
 - o 2023 for City and County taxes; and
 - o 2020 for School taxes;
5. Pay at least 50% of the interest and penalties accrued on such delinquent amounts after the taxes went to lien.

Section 6. Program Benefits. Eligible property owners who satisfy the requirements of Section 5 shall receive:

- A waiver of **50% of the accrued interest and penalties** on delinquent City, County, and School real property taxes incurred before the applicable years outlined above.

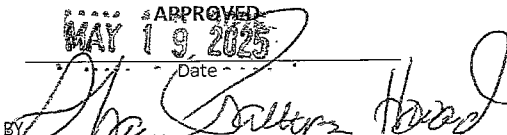
Section 7. Administration. The Office of the Comptroller shall administer the program, including processing applications, verifying eligibility, and issuing final determinations. The Comptroller is authorized to promulgate rules, procedures, and forms necessary to implement and enforce this Ordinance.


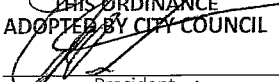
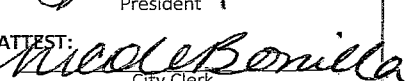
Section 8. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof.

Section 9. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect through June 13, 2025, unless extended or amended by subsequent ordinance of the City Council and approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Brad J. Hart
City Corporation Counsel

APPROVED
MAY 19 2025
Date

David L. Williams
Mayor


Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President
ATTEST:

Nicole Bonilla
City Clerk

11

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTIAL
PAYMENT NO. 13 FOR SEWER SYSTEM
REHABILITATION – PHASE 1 TO
NATIONAL WATER MAIN CLEANING COMPANY

WHEREAS, by letter dated May 1, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works certified that the work under Contract 122022-1 between the City of Mount Vernon (the “City”) and National Water Main Cleaning Company (the “Contractor”) for the “Sewer System Rehabilitation – Phase 1” project has been performed in a good and substantial manner by the Contractor; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor is entitled to receive Partial Payment No. 13 of \$340,301.63, as directed by the terms of the contract; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to process Partial Payment No. 13 of \$340,301.63 to National Water Main Cleaning Company, as certified by the Commissioner of Public Works. The payment draft shall be delivered to the Corporation Counsel, who will disburse the payment to the Contractor upon receipt of proof that there are no liens against the project; this payment remains subject to the filing of all required documents by the Contractor; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, funds for this Partial Payment No. 13 of \$340,301.63 are available under Budget Code H8120.203.C937 (Sanitary), in which all funding is reimbursed via the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 2021 Water Quality Improvement Program Grant.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

MAY 20 2025

12

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION
OF SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR TAX LIEN SALES
AND IN-REM FORECLOSURES

Whereas, pursuant to Section 153 of the Charter of the City of Mount Vernon, the Corporation Counsel, with the written consent of the Mayor, may engage legal counsel for compensation as approved by the Board of Estimate and Contract in matters involving the City; and

Whereas, by letter dated May 16, 2025, the Corporation Counsel recommended the retention of the Oxman Law Group, PLLC ("Oxman") to provide legal counsel and guidance to the City regarding Tax Lien Sales and In-Rem Foreclosures; and

Whereas, Oxman has agreed to provide such legal services at the following rates:

- Partners: \$350 per hour
- Associate Attorneys: \$300 per hour
- Paralegals: \$100 per hour; and

Whereas, for delinquent properties included in the 2025 tax lien sales, Oxman will charge the City a flat fee of \$175.00 per parcel; and

Whereas, funding for this engagement is available through Budget Code ~~A1010-405~~ ^{A 1420.405} (Outside Contracted Services); **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Resolved, that the City of Mount Vernon, through its Board of Estimate and Contract, hereby ordains and enacts the following:

Section 1. Retention of Special Counsel. The Oxman Law Group, PLLC is hereby retained to serve as special counsel to the City of Mount Vernon for matters relating to Tax Lien Sales and In-Rem Foreclosures.

Section 2. Compensation. Compensation shall be made in accordance with the hourly rates and flat fee structure as outlined in the Engagement Letter dated May 16, 2025.

Section 3. Funding Source. All compensation due for services rendered under this engagement shall be paid from Budget Code ~~A1010-405~~ ^{A 1420.405} (Outside Contracted Services).

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

12

MAY 20 2025

13

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION
OF THE LAW OFFICE OF KRISTEN K. WILSON
AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO ASSIST THE
CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE

Whereas, pursuant to Section 153 of the Charter of the City of Mount Vernon, the Corporation Counsel, with the written consent of the Mayor, may engage legal counsel for compensation as approved by the Board of Estimate and Contract in proceedings involving the City; and

Whereas, by letter dated April 22, 2025, the Corporation Counsel recommended the retention of the Law Office of Kristen K. Wilson (the "Firm") as Special Counsel to the Charter Revision Committee; and

Whereas, the Law Office of Kristen K. Wilson has agreed to provide legal services to the City at the following hourly rates:

- **Partners:** \$350 per hour
- **Associate Attorneys:** \$300 per hour
- **Paralegals:** \$100 per hour

Whereas, funding for this engagement is available under Budget Code A1010 (City Council Salaries); **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization to Retain Special Counsel. The Law Office of Kristen K. Wilson is hereby retained as Special Counsel to advise and assist the Charter Revision Committee in matters requiring specialized legal expertise.

Section 2. Compensation. The Firm shall be compensated in accordance with the hourly rates outlined in the Engagement Letter dated April 24, 2025.

Section 3. Funding Source. Compensation for services rendered shall be drawn from Budget Code A1010 (City Council Salaries).

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

13

MAY 20 2025

14

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM OF
CYNTHIA MCMULLEN

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2024, CYNTHIA MCMULLEN filed a Notice of Claim against the City of Mount Vernon, seeking compensation of \$8,800.00 for property damage to her chain link fence. The damage allegedly occurred on October 12, 2024, when a tree limb fell onto her front yard and damaged the entrance gate to her chain link fence; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated May 9, 2025, the Corporation Counsel has recommended that the Board of Estimate & Contract approve the settlement of this claim for \$950.00; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the claim of Geico, as subrogee of Cynthia McMullen, be settled for \$950.00, with said settlement hereby approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this amount shall be disbursed from Budget Code A1910.469 (Insurance - Claims) in the 2025 Budget.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

14

15

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM OF
GEICO A/S/O TOI WILLIAMS-LLOYD

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2024, Geico, as subrogee of TOI WILLIAMS-LLOYD, filed a Notice of Claim against the City of Mount Vernon, seeking compensation of \$8,547.64 for property damage to a 2020 Grand Jeep Cherokee. The damage allegedly occurred on January 3, 2024, on Hartford Avenue when a DPW pickup truck, driven by a municipal employee, struck Claimant's legally parked vehicle; and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2025, a federal lawsuit was initiated against the City of Mount Vernon on behalf of, as subrogee of TOI WILLIAMS-LLOYD; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated May 8, 2025, the Corporation Counsel has recommended that the Board of Estimate & Contract approve the settlement of this claim for \$7,000.00; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the claim of Geico, as subrogee of TOI WILLIAMS-LLOYD, be settled for \$7,000.00, with said settlement hereby approved; and be it further

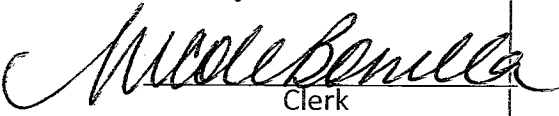
RESOLVED, that this amount shall be disbursed from Budget Code A1910.469 (Insurance - Claims) in the 2025 Budget.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

15

16

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM OF
ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY,
AS SUBROGEE OF BENNET FOX

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2023, Allstate Insurance Company, as subrogee of Bennet Fox, filed a Notice of Claim against the City of Mount Vernon (the "City") seeking compensation for property damage to a 2023 Audi Q8 55 Premium Plus Quattro, allegedly caused on August 2, 2023, when a bolt from a Department of Public Works ("DPW") sanitation struck the vehicle, resulting in damage to the roof and windshield. The claim sought damages in the amount of \$26,317.50; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2024, a Summons and Complaint was filed against the City on behalf of Allstate Insurance Company, as subrogee of Bennet Fox, arising from the same incident; and

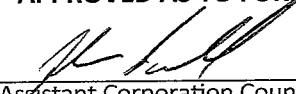
WHEREAS, by letter dated May 15, 2025, the Corporation Counsel has recommended that the Board of Estimate and Contract approve the settlement of this claim for \$17,000.00; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the claim of Allstate Insurance Company, as subrogee of Bennet Fox, is hereby settled for \$17,000.00, and said settlement is hereby approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that payment of this settlement shall be made from Budget Code A1910.469 (Insurance – Claims), 2025 Budget.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

MAY 20 2025

17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
SETTLEMENT CLAIM FILED BY LETICIA SOTERO

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2023, Leticia Sotero filed a Notice of Claim against the City of Mount Vernon (the "City"), alleging that she sustained personal injuries on June 30, 2023, after being struck by an on-duty Mount Vernon Police Officer while crossing the street in a crosswalk at the intersection of Roosevelt Square North and North 7th Avenue, and seeking damages in the amount of \$150,000; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2024, a Summons and Complaint was filed against the City on behalf of Leticia Sotero arising from the same incident; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation Counsel, by letter dated May 14, 2025, has recommended that the Board of Estimate and Contract approve a settlement of this matter in the amount of \$80,000; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the claim of Leticia Sotero is hereby settled in the amount of \$80,000.00, and said settlement is hereby approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that payment of the settlement shall be made from Budget Code A1930.494 (Judgments & Settlements), 2025 Budget.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT


Clerk

17

18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
SETTLEMENT CLAIM FILED BY KAMIL MAMAK

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2024, Kamil Mamak filed a Notice of Claim against the City of Mount Vernon (the “City”), alleging property damage to his 2017 Toyota Camry XLE as a result of an incident on July 25, 2024, in which a Department of Public Works (“DPW”) dump truck backed into the front of his parked and unoccupied vehicle, which was being operated at the time by his daughter while she was working for the City; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mamak seeks damages for \$4,783.73 in connection with this incident; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation Counsel, by letter dated May 19, 2025, has recommended that the Board of Estimate and Contract approve a settlement of this claim in the amount of \$4,783.73;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the claim of Kamil Mamak is hereby settled for \$4,783.73, and said settlement is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that payment of the settlement shall be made from Budget Code A1930.494 (Judgments & Settlements), 2025 Budget.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Assistant Corporation Counsel

ADOPTED BY
BOARD OF ESTIMATE
AND CONTRACT



Clerk

MAY 20 2025

19

WHEREAS, proceedings for the review of final tax assessments have been brought against the City of Mount Vernon for the reduction of the final assessed valuations as hereinafter set forth;

WHEREAS, the Mount Vernon City Charter, section 152, provides that the Corporation Counsel shall, whenever he considers that the interests of the City will be subserved thereby, enter into a written agreement subject to the approval of the Board of Estimate and Contract to compromise and settle any claim against the City; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Corporation Counsel, this Board of Estimate and Contract deems it in the best interests of the City to settle said proceedings as hereinafter provided; NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the settlements of tax review proceedings for the reduction of tax assessments brought in the Supreme Court, Westchester County, by the hereinafter named petitioner against the Commissioner of Assessment and the Board of Assessment Review, which proceedings are filed under the Westchester County Clerk's Index Numbers as indicated, are hereby authorized and directed, and the following assessed valuations of the said properties for the respective years hereinafter set forth are hereby allowed, together with refunds of excess taxes paid hereinafter provided:

INDEX NOS.: 61863/19
59076/20
60925/21
63418/22
65266/23
67286/24

PREMISES: 60 WEST BROAD ST.INC.
PETITIONER: 60 WEST BROAD ST, INC.

Tax Map No.: 165.22-1028-1					
Assessment Year(s)	Tax Year(s)	Prior Total Assessment	Adjusted Total Assessment	Reduction	Tax to be Refunded by City
2019	2019/20	\$204,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020	2020/21	\$204,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
2021	2021/22	\$204,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
2022	2022/23	\$204,100	\$187,935	\$16,165	\$7,523.03
2023	2023/24	\$204,100	\$145,316	\$58,784	\$29,466.07
2024	2024/25	\$204,100	\$163,402	\$40,698	\$21,134.47
				TOTAL:	\$58,123.57

TOTAL REFUND: \$58,123.57 without costs and with interest, which interest shall be waived by petitioner if the refunds are paid within 90 days of the service of the judgment with notice of entry. Amount of refund based upon calculation and the assumptions that all taxes have been paid at the prior total assessment and all refunds will be paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry. The

19

MAY 20 2025

amount to be actually refunded is subject to audit and approval of the Comptroller; and
be it further

RESOLVED, that in each said case, the Commissioner of Assessment is hereby
authorized, upon receipt of a certified copy of the proper judgment made by a Justice of
the Supreme Court of the County of Westchester, and entered in the office of the Clerk
of the County of Westchester, to correct the respective assessment roll or rolls in
relation to the said respective properties of the abovementioned property owner to
reflect the respective reduced assessments as hereinabove set forth and provided in said
judgment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in any of the said cases, upon receipt by the Corporation
Counsel of the certified copy of the respective appropriate judgment or order signed by
a Justice of the Supreme Court of said County, in said respective proceedings, directing
the correction of the assessment or assessments involved on the roll or rolls for the
designated year or years, and directing a refund the excessive taxes paid as stated
above, and settling and discontinuing such proceeding, with prejudice, which said
papers shall be satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel and upon receipt by the
Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to audit and allow and to draw a draft or
drafts to the order of the said respective taxpayers or their attorneys who have paid said
tax or taxes and are entitled to such refunds of the City taxes, without costs with
interest which interest shall be waived by the petitioner if refunds as paid within 90
days of service of the judgment with notice of entry, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

**ADOPTED BY BOARD OF
ESTIMATE AND CONTRACT**



OF COUNSEL

APPROVED:



**OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
Dept. LAW**



Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

20

WHEREAS, proceedings for the review of final tax assessments have been brought against the City of Mount Vernon for the reduction of the final assessed valuations as hereinafter set forth;

WHEREAS, the Mount Vernon City Charter, section 152, provides that the Corporation Counsel shall, whenever he considers that the interests of the City will be subserved thereby, enter into a written agreement subject to the approval of the Board of Estimate and Contract to compromise and settle any claim against the City; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Corporation Counsel, this Board of Estimate and Contract deems it in the best interests of the City to settle said proceedings as hereinafter provided; NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the settlements of tax review proceedings for the reduction of tax assessments brought in the Supreme Court, Westchester County, by the hereinafter named petitioner against the Commissioner of Assessment and the Board of Assessment Review, which proceedings are filed under the Westchester County Clerk's Index Numbers as indicated, are hereby authorized and directed, and the following assessed valuations of the said properties for the respective years hereinafter set forth are hereby allowed, together with refunds of excess taxes paid hereinafter provided:

INDEX NOS.: 65256/23
67279/24

PREMISES: 135 Sindy Ave
PETITIONER: 210 WEST LLC

Tax Map No.: 165.61-1087-4					
Assessment Year(s)	Tax Year(s)	Prior Total Assessment	Adjusted Total Assessment	Reduction	Tax to be Refunded by City
2023	2023/24	\$4,300	\$987	\$3,313	\$1,660.67
2024	2024/25	\$4,300	\$1,110	\$3,190	\$1,656.57
				TOTAL:	\$3,317.24

TOTAL REFUND: \$3,317.24 without costs and with interest, which interest shall be waived by petitioner if the refunds are paid within 90 days of the service of the judgment with notice of entry. Amount of refund based upon calculation and the assumptions that all taxes have been paid at the prior total assessment and all refunds will be paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry. The amount to be actually refunded is subject to audit and approval of the Comptroller; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in each said case, the Commissioner of Assessment is hereby authorized, upon receipt of a certified copy of the proper judgment made by a Justice of the Supreme Court of the County of Westchester, and entered in the office of the Clerk

J. V. Vandyke
5/19/25

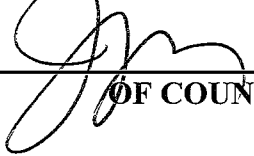
Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

of the County of Westchester, to correct the respective assessment roll or rolls in relation to the said respective properties of the abovementioned property owner to reflect the respective reduced assessments as hereinabove set forth and provided in said judgment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in any of the said cases, upon receipt by the Corporation Counsel of the certified copy of the respective appropriate judgment or order signed by a Justice of the Supreme Court of said County, in said respective proceedings, directing the correction of the assessment or assessments involved on the roll or rolls for the designated year or years, and directing a refund the excessive taxes paid as stated above, and settling and discontinuing such proceeding, with prejudice, which said papers shall be satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel and upon receipt by the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to audit and allow and to draw a draft or drafts to the order of the said respective taxpayers or their attorneys who have paid said tax or taxes and are entitled to such refunds of the City taxes, without costs with interest which interest shall be waived by the petitioner if refunds as paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



OF COUNSEL

**ADOPTED BY BOARD OF
ESTIMATE AND CONTRACT**

APPROVED:


OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
Dept. LAW
Clerk

21

WHEREAS, proceedings for the review of final tax assessments have been brought against the City of Mount Vernon for the reduction of the final assessed valuations as hereinafter set forth;

WHEREAS, the Mount Vernon City Charter, section 152, provides that the Corporation Counsel shall, whenever he considers that the interests of the City will be subserved thereby, enter into a written agreement subject to the approval of the Board of Estimate and Contract to compromise and settle any claim against the City; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Corporation Counsel, this Board of Estimate and Contract deems it in the best interests of the City to settle said proceedings as hereinafter provided; NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the settlements of tax review proceedings for the reduction of tax assessments brought in the Supreme Court, Westchester County, by the hereinafter named petitioner against the Commissioner of Assessment and the Board of Assessment Review, which proceedings are filed under the Westchester County Clerk's Index Numbers as indicated, are hereby authorized and directed, and the following assessed valuations of the said properties for the respective years hereinafter set forth are hereby allowed, together with refunds of excess taxes paid hereinafter provided:

INDEX NOS.: 65256/23
67279/24

PREMISES: 139 Sindey Ave
PETITIONER: 210 WEST LLC

Tax Map No.: 165.61-1087-5					
Assessment Year(s)	Tax Year(s)	Prior Total Assessment	Adjusted Total Assessment	Reduction	Tax to be Refunded by City
2023	2023/24	\$5,000	\$1,150	\$3,850	\$1,599.02
2024	2024/25	\$5,000	\$1,290	\$3,710	\$1,926.60
TOTAL:					\$3,856.45

TOTAL REFUND: \$3,856.45 without costs and with interest, which interest shall be waived by petitioner if the refunds are paid within 90 days of the service of the judgment with notice of entry. Amount of refund based upon calculation and the assumptions that all taxes have been paid at the prior total assessment and all refunds will be paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry. The amount to be actually refunded is subject to audit and approval of the Comptroller; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in each said case, the Commissioner of Assessment is hereby authorized, upon receipt of a certified copy of the proper judgment made by a Justice of the Supreme Court of the County of Westchester, and entered in the office of the Clerk

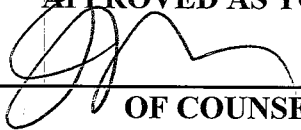
SV
5/19/25

of the County of Westchester, to correct the respective assessment roll or rolls in relation to the said respective properties of the abovementioned property owner to reflect the respective reduced assessments as hereinabove set forth and provided in said judgment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in any of the said cases, upon receipt by the Corporation Counsel of the certified copy of the respective appropriate judgment or order signed by a Justice of the Supreme Court of said County, in said respective proceedings, directing the correction of the assessment or assessments involved on the roll or rolls for the designated year or years, and directing a refund the excessive taxes paid as stated above, and settling and discontinuing such proceeding, with prejudice, which said papers shall be satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel and upon receipt by the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to audit and allow and to draw a draft or drafts to the order of the said respective taxpayers or their attorneys who have paid said tax or taxes and are entitled to such refunds of the City taxes, without costs with interest which interest shall be waived by the petitioner if refunds as paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

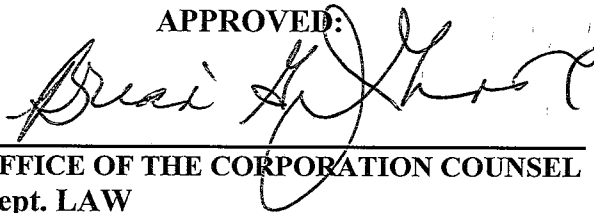
APPROVED AS TO FORM:



OF COUNSEL

**ADOPTED BY BOARD OF
ESTIMATE AND CONTRACT**

APPROVED:


OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
Dept. LAW
Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted

MAY 20 2025

22

WHEREAS, proceedings for the review of final tax assessments have been brought against the City of Mount Vernon for the reduction of the final assessed valuations as hereinafter set forth;

WHEREAS, the Mount Vernon City Charter, section 152, provides that the Corporation Counsel shall, whenever he considers that the interests of the City will be subserved thereby, enter into a written agreement subject to the approval of the Board of Estimate and Contract to compromise and settle any claim against the City; and

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Corporation Counsel, this Board of Estimate and Contract deems it in the best interests of the City to settle said proceedings as hereinafter provided; NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the settlements of tax review proceedings for the reduction of tax assessments brought in the Supreme Court, Westchester County, by the hereinafter named petitioner against the Commissioner of Assessment and the Board of Assessment Review, which proceedings are filed under the Westchester County Clerk's Index Numbers as indicated, are hereby authorized and directed, and the following assessed valuations of the said properties for the respective years hereinafter set forth are hereby allowed, together with refunds of excess taxes paid hereinafter provided:

INDEX NOS.: 67292/24 **PREMISES:** 41 Fourth Avenue, S., City
PETITIONER: 41 SOUTH 4TH AVE. R.E. CORP.

Tax Map No.: 165.70-3111-32					
Assessment Year(s)	Tax Year(s)	Prior Total Assessment	Adjusted Total Assessment	Reduction	Tax to be Refunded by City
2024	2025/26	\$13,000	\$7,680	\$5,320	\$2,762.68
TOTAL:					\$2,762.68

TOTAL REFUND: \$2,762.68 without costs and with interest, which interest shall be waived by petitioner if the refunds are paid within 90 days of the service of the judgment with notice of entry. Amount of refund based upon calculation and the assumptions that all taxes have been paid at the prior total assessment and all refunds will be paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry. The amount to be actually refunded is subject to audit and approval of the Comptroller; and be it further

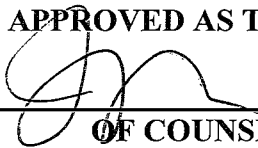
RESOLVED, that in each said case, the Commissioner of Assessment is hereby authorized, upon receipt of a certified copy of the proper judgment made by a Justice of the Supreme Court of the County of Westchester, and entered in the office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester, to correct the respective assessment roll or rolls in relation to the said respective properties of the abovementioned property owner to

reflect the respective reduced assessments as hereinabove set forth and provided in said judgment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in any of the said cases, upon receipt by the Corporation Counsel of the certified copy of the respective appropriate judgment or order signed by a Justice of the Supreme Court of said County, in said respective proceedings, directing the correction of the assessment or assessments involved on the roll or rolls for the designated year or years, and directing a refund the excessive taxes paid as stated above, and settling and discontinuing such proceeding, with prejudice, which said papers shall be satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel and upon receipt by the Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to audit and allow and to draw a draft or drafts to the order of the said respective taxpayers or their attorneys who have paid said tax or taxes and are entitled to such refunds of the City taxes, without costs with interest which interest shall be waived by the petitioner if refunds as paid within 90 days of service of the judgment with notice of entry, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

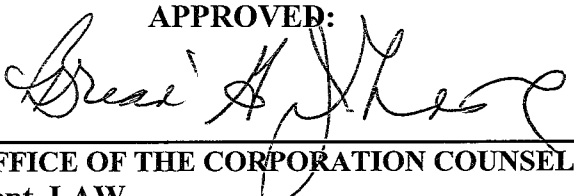
APPROVED AS TO FORM:




OF COUNSEL

**ADOPTED BY BOARD OF
ESTIMATE AND CONTRACT**

APPROVED:



OFFICE OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
Dept. LAW



Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 5/20/2025
MORTON: Yea BROWNE: Yea
PATTERSON-HOWARD: Yea
RESOLUTION: Adopted