

**Ordinances & Administration Committee**  
Monday, January 4, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.  
**1<sup>st</sup> Fl. Council Committee Room – City Hall**  
**-Minutes-**

**Present: Chair, Councilor Steve LeBlanc; Vice Chair, Councilor Jamie O’Hara; Councilor Sean Nolan**  
**Absent: None.**

**Also Present: Councilor Ciolino; Linda T. Lowe; Jim Destino**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**1. New Appointments:**

Downtown Development Commission

TTE 02/14/18

Joseph J. Giacalone

**Mr. Giacalone** reviewed for the Committee that he is a lifelong downtown resident. He said he recently ran for Councilor at Large, and that during the campaign while speaking with business owners he learned their concerns. He offered suggestions to the Committee that the Harbor Walk guiding system could be improved; that I4-C2 (65 Rogers Street) is still awaiting development and act as a possible site for a city-sponsored seafood exposition. He made mention of the Block Parties and spoke to possible future cultural themes reflective of the entire city. He suggested enhancing merchant incentives at Halloween by closing Main Street to vehicular traffic, and also suggested a possible return of the First Night event.

**Councilor O’Hara**, noting he had spoken to downtown business owners, he said they all spoke highly of Mr. Giacalone. He discussed briefly a variety of issues with Mr. Giacalone -- the DDC interfacing with the Waterways Board with the harbor being an important part of the downtown area; the issue of lack of parking, snow removal noted to be well handled by the city, and the advantages of living in the downtown area.

**Councilor Nolan** offered his endorsement of Mr. Giacalone’s appointment to the DDC as did **Councilor LeBlanc**.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor O’Hara, seconded by Councilor Nolan, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Joseph J. Giacalone to the Downtown Development Commission, TTE 02/14/18.**

Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate Member)

TTE 02/14/17\*

Joseph Parisi

**Mr. Parisi** explained that he has always been involved in community service and that the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is in his area of knowledge as he has construction background. He assured the Committee that he will look at each application that comes before the Board on its merits, listen to the pro’s and con’s, and make a decision that is in the best interest of the city. He said he understood that there are times people do need relief from the Zoning Ordinance, which is the role of the ZBA entirely.

**Councilor O’Hara** noted both he and Mr. Parisi attended the Wentworth Institute, and knew him to be construction minded and said that a number of attorneys and downtown business people spoke highly of Mr. Parisi’s appointment. Responding to an inquiry by **Councilor O’Hara**, **Mr. Parisi** noted there is also a role for the Board to help local homeowners who come before them seeking relief for small home improvement projects and to be sensitive to their needs. He said the Board has a more technical role with complicated zoning issues when applicants are asking for extensive relief -- in such cases the Board must weigh the best interests of the city with those of the applicant’s need to move their project forward.

**Councilor Nolan** said he’s known Mr. Parisi most of his life, and that many people as well as he know Mr. Parisi to be very knowledgeable about all aspects of the construction business. He endorsed Mr. Parisi’s appointment.

Responding to a question by **Councilor LeBlanc**, **Jim Destino**, CAO, said that Mr. Parisi will be the ZBA’s first alternate and would attend all meetings, sitting as a full member as needed. He acknowledged that Mr. Parisi’s term is for two years, and that the expiration is 2018 not 2017\* as referred out by the Council on Dec. 8.

**MOTION: On a motion by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor O'Hara, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council appoint Joseph Parisi to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate Member, TTE 02/14/18.**

2. *CC2015-046 (McGeary) Amend GCO Sections 21-84 (c) (g) and Section 21-85 (b) (TBC to 02/01/16 pending recommendation of the P&D Committee)*

This matter is continued to February 1, 2016.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dana E. Jorgenson*

Clerk of Committees

**DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.**