

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, February 28, 2019 - 4:00 P.M.
Special Meeting
Common Council Chambers

Council President Briggs led in the Pledge of Allegiance at 4:00 PM

Roll call was taken

PRESENT:

Council President Briggs
Council Member Smith
Council Member Russell
Council Member McCarthy
Council Member Napier
Council Member Koniowka

ABSENT:

Mayor Morse

In accordance with §C3-3 of the City Charter, Common Council President Chris Briggs has called for a Special Common Council Meeting to be held on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 4:00 PM in the Common Council Chambers for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

Council President Briggs, "The purpose of this meeting is to get the public's input with the current situation regarding Mayor Morse."

Public Comment:

Tim Thibodeau, Massachusetts Ave., "I understand that these charges are serious. But I do feel that this is a conflict of interest. I don't know how you can fairly vote when so many have something to gain."

Carol Conley, Columbia St., "I do believe Mr. Morse needs to step down. Many people feel the same way as you, but are afraid to say it."

Helen Anly, Avalon Place, "I moved here 9 years ago because I fell in love with this City. I am tired of the City I love being in the news for all the wrong things. We are always in the news for the wrong things. I am tired of defending the City I love."

Public Comment period closed.

Council Member Napier, "I am concerned about the ability to effectively lead with all the distractions. This is a black eye that needs to be overcome. In the best interest of the City, I think the Mayor needs to resign or take a leave of absence."

Council Member Russell, "We all know of the investigation and formed our own opinion. The FBI knew what they were looking for. Should take a leave of absence to take care of his personnel issues, if vindicated we will welcome him back."

Council Member Smith, "Should take a leave of absence to spend time with his family and get his family issues together."

Council Member Koniowka, "If a leave of absence, the President will be the acting Mayor. This is a symbolic gesture. No legal authority to enforce."

Council Member McCarthy, "He will need to be involved with his defense. I feel he should take a leave of absence or step aside."

Council President Briggs, "So did draft a Resolution, the Resolution does not have any force except as a statement."

The Resolution was read into the record:

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MAYOR TO TAKE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR
RESIGN

WHEREAS, The Council has concerns and questions about the Mayor's ability to effectively lead the City of Cohoes as a result of recent events, and

WHEREAS, the Council believes it may be in the best interest of the City for the Mayor to take a leave of absence until certain issues are resolved or to resign.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

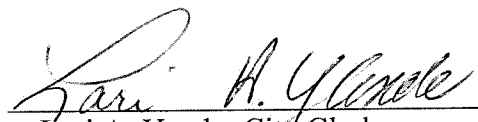
RESOLVED, That the Council hereby requests that the Mayor consider taking a leave of absence or resign until such issues are resolved.

Council President Briggs, and Council Members Smith, Russell, McCarthy, Napier, and Koniowka presented Resolution No. 12 for the year 2019

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MAYOR TO TAKE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR
RESIGN

Council Member Napier made a MOTION to approve Resolution No. 12 seconded by Council Member Koniowka. Council President Briggs abstained. Council Members Smith, Russell, McCarthy, Napier, and Koniowka voted "AYE". . Resolution No. 12 for 2019 passed.

At 4:10 PM Council Member Russell made a MOTION to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Napier. All members voted "AYE". The Council Meeting was adjourned.


Lori A. Yando, City Clerk