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**Members**

James Tillotson  
Gary Labrie  
Jerry Roy  
Pniak-Costello  
Krampits

APPROVED 4-25-2023

**MINUTES**  
**March 20, 2023**

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Monday, March 20, 2023 5:45 PM in the City Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

**Members Present** Tillotson, Pniak-Costello, Krampits

Member Absent Labrie, Roy

**Also Present** Dan Garvey (Associate City Solicitor), Councilor López, Councilor Zygarowski

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM

In compliance with the Open Meeting Law the Chairman asked if anyone in the audience was recording the meeting. Hearing none the meeting continued.

Some of the audio was inaudible.

**Item #1** Mayoral appointment of Joshua Clark as a member of the Mobile Home Rent Control Board to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2025.

**Councilor Tillotson** stated you're on one of the most difficult committees there is and you're willing to come back speaks for itself in my mind.

**Joshua Clark stated** I think perhaps this is the most important board. This board is responsible for ensuring that our mobile home tenants in the city are paying a fair and equitable rent on their lots that they rent from the people who own the mobile home parks. We serve a very valuable purpose. There's only about ten or so communities in Massachusetts who have rent control. Boston is looking at it for the whole thing but, we have it just for mobile homes. I'm happy to serve one more term on the Mobile Home Rent Control Board. I have some unfinished business I'd like to attend to with our bylaws. The board has some very peculiar procedural rules that I think need to be updated. That's something that I think in the upcoming year or so, we're going to take a look at and try to fix that and update it, so that the process is a little easier for owners and tenants. So it's a goal of mine. I'd like to get that done. We did it for the historical commission. I was able to write the bylaws and get those approved and the board never had them before. This is something I have experience

doing. So I'm happy to do that for the Mobile Home Rent Control Board before I respectfully request not to be reappointed. So it's a tough one. Any increase in a lot of the rent for some of those people is more than they can really afford.

**Joshua Clark** stated that he was appointed by Mayor Kos in November 2014. So I've been on the board a little over eight years now.

Councilor Krampits motion to approve - Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #2** Mayoral appointment of Daniel Mashia as a member of the Chicopee Electric Light Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026

**Daniel Mashia** was not present.

Councilor Krampits motion to postpone until the end of the meeting – Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #2** Mayoral appointment of Daniel Mashia as a member of the Chicopee Electric Light Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026.

Councilor Krampits motion to return to Item #2 – Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		

Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #2** Mayoral appointment of Daniel Mashia as a member of the Chicopee Electric Light Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026.

**Daniel Mashia** stated he lived in Chicopee pretty much all his life. Went to Strieber school, Bellamy School and graduated from Chicopee Comp. Got a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from Rensselaer. Worked for a company called Cole Morgan for many years, got a master's degree in engineering management, ended up quitting that job because I wanted to try something different, and I was a high school teacher at Chicopee Comp for twelve years and ended up getting a degree in teaching for that as well. Ended up returning to Cole Morgan Company and later become the L-3 Harris Company. I was working in engineering for a few years, and then the Finance Department recruited me to do proposals for the U.S. Navy, if you don't know Cole Morgan makes submarine, periscopes and optical directors of the United States and other friendly navies. I've been living in Chicopee all my life, paying electric bills since 1993 when I bought a house on College Street. I want to contribute. As I'm very active at the Knights of Columbus in Chicopee and so trying to give back to the community a little bit there. I don't teach anymore, but I do work at Chicopee Comp every spring.

**Councilor Pniak-Costello** stated that I just want to thank you, your background is tremendous. Beyond that. He was a student of mine when I taught CCD. He's a man of tremendous character. We're very fortunate to have him.

**Councilor Pniak-Costello motion to approve – Councilor Tilloston 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.**

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #3** Mayoral appointment of Michael Patnaude as a member of the Veterans Advisory Board until the first of February 2025.

**Michael Patnaude stated** I am a veteran of 14 years of military. Marine Corps and Air Force. Grew up in Chicopee. I'm a member of the Marine Corps League Public Relations Officer in Westfield.

**Councilor Pniak-Costello** stated that she appreciates your due diligence in regard to ensure veterans issues are addressed.

Councilor Pniak-Costello motion to approve – Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #4** Mayoral appointment of Nancy Shepard-Murray as an associate member of the Commission on Disability to serve in such office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2026.

**Nancy Shepard-Murray** stated She took care of her dad who suffered from a traumatic brain injury. I've had several jobs working with people with disabilities. I'm an advocate for students who I taught, students who had disabilities, children with challenges. I'm a retired correctional officer. I taught for about eight years and now work at the City Hall.

**Councilor Tillotson** stated that you have a good background and we're glad to have you.

**Councilor López** stated I just want to say thank you for your willingness to serve in the short time that you've been here with the city. You've shown that you are dedicated to the city, and you are now also volunteering your time. So the city is lucky to have you as both an employee and as now a volunteer on one of our boards. Thank you.

**Councilor Pniak-Costello** stated she would like to extend what Councilor López has stated. Individual has served the city very well and you have a tremendous background to understanding the needs.

Councilor Pniak-Costello motion to approve – Councilor Krampits 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #5** Mayoral appointment of Julia Sudol as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to serve in such Office for the term expiring on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2026.

**Julia Sudol stated that** I believe I'm in my second year as an associate member, and I'm eager to join as a regular member. I've had a really great experience. To take a closer look at the ordinances and all the special cases that come before us, especially with all the abutters that usually come in. It's been really interesting to be able to hear everyone's concerns and to make sure that those concerns are being heard when these decisions are made, especially because we don't want obviously, any of the streets of Chicopee to become more congested than they need to be when it comes to granting variances of larger houses. Overall, it's been a really wonderful time getting to know the people of Chicopee and the members, and I'm very eager to continue serving on the board.

Councilor Krampits stated we are very happy to have you on the board.

Councilor Pniak-Costello motion to approve – Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

**Item #6 Council Krampits motion to approve the minutes** of February 15, 2023 – Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

Councilor Pniak-Costello motion to adjourn – Councilor Tillotson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Councilor	Yes	No	Absent	Abstained	Out of Chair
Tillotson	x				
Labrie			x		
Roy			x		
Pniak-Costello	x				
Krampits	x				

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM