



City of Milwaukee

City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Meeting Minutes JUDICIARY & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

ALD. ASHANTI HAMILTON, CHAIR

Ald. Terry Witkowski, Vice-Chair

**Ald. James Bohl, Jr., Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., and Ald. Robert
Donovan**

Staff Assistant, Joanna Polanco, 286-2366

Fax: 286-3456, jpolan@milwaukee.gov

**Legislative Liaison, Richard Withers, 286-8532,
rwithe@milwaukee.gov**

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

1:30 PM

Room 301-B, City Hall

Meeting called to order at 1:41 P.M.

Present 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis, Donovan

The Judiciary and Legislation Committee may convene into closed session at 1:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 6th, 2012 in Room 301-B, City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(g), Wis. Stats., for the purpose of conferring with the City Attorney who will render oral or written advice with respect to litigation in which the city is or is likely to become involved and then will go into open session for the regular agenda.

Ald. Witkowski moved the Judiciary and Legislation Committee convene into closed session, pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(g), Wis. Stats., for the purpose of conferring with the City Attorney who will render oral or written advice with respect to litigation in which the city is or is likely to become involved and then will go into open session for the regular agenda.

Roll call: 1:42 P.M.

Individuals present:

Kim Montgomery, Mayor's Office

Sue Lappen, Asst City Attorney

Ald. Davis, Donovan, Bohl, Witkowski and Hamilton

Motion by Ald. Witkowski that the Judiciary and Legislation Committee convene into open session.

1. [111471](#)

Resolution authorizing settlement of the claims raised by plaintiff, Michael A. Ramos, in the lawsuit entitled Michael A. Ramos v. Roger T. Walker, Gregory A. Koesting and Pamela Holmes.

A motion was made by ALD. DAVIS that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

2. [111501](#) Resolution authorizing payment of the claim of Dan and Deb Pollesch.

Individual present:
Asst. City Atty - Jan Smokowicz

Seattle claim in the amount of \$11,707.50

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

3. [111502](#) Resolution authorizing payment of the claim of Gerald and Karen Holton.

Individual present:
Asst. City Atty - Jan Smokowicz

Seattle in the amount \$11,967.46

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

4. [111517](#) Resolution urging Governor Scott Walker to use the mortgage settlement funding for its intended purposes.

A motion was made by ALD. WITKOWSKI that this Resolution be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

5. [111455](#) Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 3019 W. Lincoln Avenue, in the 8th Aldermanic District to former owner, Amelia Avila.

Individuals present:
Karen Taylor - DCD
Lynne Steffen - DCD
Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office
Requester, Amelia Avila

Taxes due if paid in March \$6,964.42
If paid by April 19, 2012 \$7,052.92

A motion was made by ALD. DONOVAN that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

6. [111454](#) Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 3601 W. Clarke Street, in the 15th Aldermanic District to former owner, Peter Butzer, agent for 3601 W Clark St, LLC.

Individuals present:
Karen Taylor - DCD
Lynne Steffen - DCD
Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office
Peter Butzer, Agent

Taxes due if paid in March, \$7,395.32
if paid by April 19, 2012 \$7,482.75

A motion was made by ALD. DAVIS that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

7. [111453](#) Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 1738-1738 A N. 33rd Street, in the 15th Aldermanic District to former owner, Peter Butzer, agent for 1738/1738A N 33rd St, LLC.

Individuals present:
Karen Taylor - DCD
Lynne Steffen - DCD
Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office
Peter Butzer, Agent

Taxes due if paid in March \$7,039.51
If paid by April 19, 2012 \$ 7,123.00

A motion was made by ALD. DONOVAN that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

8. [111452](#) Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 2526 N. 19th Street, in the 15th Aldermanic District to former owner, Andre Hopson.

Individuals present:
Karen Taylor - DCD
Lynne Steffen - DCD
Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office
Mr. Andre Hopson, property owner

Taxes due if Paid in MArch, \$8,932.20
If paid by April 19, 2012 \$9,044.22

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

9. [111451](#)

Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 3235 W. St. Paul Avenue, in the 4th Aldermanic District to former owner, Jesse Lee, agent for the Freewill Church of God in Christ.

Individuals present:

Karen Taylor - DCD

Lynne Steffen - DCD

Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office

Jacqueline Westmoreland on behalf of Rev. Jesse Lee

Taxes due if paid in March, \$11,693.59

If paid by April 19, 2012 \$11,833.32

Also interest in the following locations:

9220 W Silver Spring Dr.

\$6,323.11for delinquent 2011taxes

5625 N 92nd St

\$2,138.61delinquent 2011 taxes

Ms. Westmoreland stated that they have applied for an exemption for the properties located on Silver Spring Dr and N 92nd St.

Mr. Schmidt said that the property on Silver Spring Dr. is listed in merchantile category.

By March 19, 2012 by noon, applicant must communicate to city clerk office that a payment plan has been set up for properties listed above with delinquent taxes and/or ractify situation with the location in question.

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl and Davis

No 0

Excused 1 - Donovan

10. [111450](#)

Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 116-116A W. Keefe Avenue, in the 6th Aldermanic District to former owner, Cheryl Pope.

Individuals present:

Karen Taylor - DCD

Lynne Steffen - DCD

Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office

Ms. Cheryl Pope

Taxes due if paid in March, \$9,664.96

If paid by April 19, 2012 \$9,782.02

Ms. Pope stated that she was a victim of mortgage fraud in 2009-2010 she thought her

mortgage payment were being applied toward her escrow account. She is currently working with a non-profit organization, Select Milwaukee to help her refinance her home. Ms. Pope asked if there is a way she can have more time to afford the payment she needs to get her property back.

Ald. Hamilton said that the committee has to abide by the time lines dictated by State Status, but he asked City Treasurer's if they have worked with Select Milwaukee or other organization in the past with similar situations. Mr. Schmidt said that they have not.

Ald. Bohl moved to hold this item to call of the chair until a clear understanding of Ms. Pope situation can be reached.

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl and Donovan

No 0

Excused 1 - Davis

11. [111449](#) Resolution authorizing the return of real estate located at 3870 N. 24th Street, in the 6th Aldermanic District to former owner, Funta Watson.

*Individuals present:
Karen Taylor - DCD
Lynne Steffen - DCD
Rich Schmidt - Treasurer's Office
Mr. Funta Watson*

*Taxes due if paid in March, \$11,616.91
If paid by April 19, 2012 \$11,752.11*

*Also Mr. Watson has ownership interest on:
5414 N 52nd St
Delinquent 2011 taxes \$2,063.82
Mr. Watson agreed to set up payment plan for this property by March 19, 2012 no later than noon.*

Mr. Watson also has interest on 2713-15 N 39th St for the years of 2008-2011 in the amount of \$16,265.53 however, this property is covered under chapter 128 Amortization.

A motion was made by ALD. WITKOWSKI that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

4. [111517](#) Substitute resolution urging Governor Scott Walker and Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen to use the foreclosure settlement funding for programs directly related to foreclosure issues.

*Individuals present:
Jennifer Gonda, IRD*

Ald. Coggs

Ald. Witkowski and Davis request to be added to this legislation.

Ald. Davis moved to accept a City of Milwaukee Bank Owned and In Rem Foreclosed Properties by Aldermanic District chart submitted by Ald. Coggs (data reflects City Assessors Records as of February 2, 2012). There were no objections.

A motion was made by ALD. DAVIS that this Resolution be RECONSIDERED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

A motion was made by ALD. WITKOWSKI that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl and Davis

No 0

Excused 1 - Donovan

12. [111427](#)

Resolution relating to an appeal from Viletta Redmond for personal injuries. (5th Aldermanic District)

Individuals present

Jan Smokowicz - Asst City Atty.

Claimant - Ms. Viletta Redmond

Ald.Bohl moved to grant claim in the amount of \$131.28

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl and Davis

No 0

Excused 1 - Donovan

13. [111122](#)

Resolution relating to an appeal from Mary Antoinette Robinson for property damage. (1st Aldermanic District)

Individuals present

Jan Smokowicz - Asst City Atty.

Claimant - Ms. Robinson

Chuck Schumacker - Fleet Operations Manager DPW

Ald.Bohl moved denial based on department's testimonies.

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR DISALLOWANCE & INDEF. POSTPONEMENT. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

14. [110996](#) Resolution relating to an appeal from Charles Kowalski for property damage.

Individuals present

Jan Smokowicz - Asst City Atty.

Claimant - Mr. James Kowalski on behalf of Mr. Kowalski

A motion was made by ALD. DAVIS that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR DISALLOWANCE & INDEF. POSTPONEMENT. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

15. [110033](#) Communication related to the 2011 annual report and activities of the Ethics Board.

Individual present

Jim Owczarski, Staff

Ald. Witkowski moved receive 2011 Annual report and place in file.

A motion was made by ALD. WITKOWSKI that this Communication-Report be RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

16. [110912](#) Resolution relating to legislative bills.

Individuals present:

Jennifer Gonda - IRD

Art Dahlberg - Commissioner of Neighborhood Services

Joe Mar Hooper - Deputy City Treasurer

--SB-482/ AB-617 Lodging establishments and restricting a local government's ability to prohibit or restrict an individual from renting his or her home.

Ald. Bohl moved to take a position to opposed SB 482/SB 617.

Prevailed 5-0

--SB-308/AB-510 Deposit placement programs of public depositories.

Ald. Bohl moved to take a position to support SB 308/AB 510

Prevailed 5-0

--SB-493/AB-618 Outdoor advertising signs that are relocated because of state highway projects.

Ald. Bohl moved to take position to opposed SB 493/AB 618

Prevailed 5-0

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be SUBSTITUTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

110912

Substitute resolution relative to legislative bills.

A motion was made by ALD. BOHL that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Hamilton, Witkowski, Bohl, Davis and Donovan

No 0

Meeting adjourned at 3:54 P.M.

Joanna Polanco

Staff Assistant

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at <http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar>.