

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING

BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

June 9, 2016

6:30 p.m.

Present: Mary Balbier
Kevin Tanski (arrived at 6:32)
Barb Paulitzky
Ron Van Kirk
Tony DeMarco
Debbie Tomusko
Kathy Pucci

Absent: Ron Van Kirk

Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Pro-Tem Haig said since Int. Pres. Van Kirk was unable to attend the mtg. we need a meeting Chair. **MOTION** by DeMarco, second by Balbier for Councilwoman Pucci as meeting Chair. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Councilwoman Pucci for Mtg. Chair:* Yes: Balbier, Paulitzky, DeMarco, Tomusko. Abstain: Pucci. No: None. **(COUNCILWOMAN PUCCI, MTG. CHAIR)**

Councilwoman Paulitzky asked, per an e-mail from Law Dir. Butler, of Councilman DeMarco, who called the meeting, for an exact reason for the meeting. Chairwoman Pucci said since a motion hasn't been made yet it's jumping the gun. First is a public session relating only to the item(s) on the Agenda. For the record, there are no members of the public. Also, Councilman Tanski is present at 6:32 p.m. Councilwoman Paulitzky asked if she could ask now for the purpose of the meeting. Chairwoman Pucci said she believes Dir. Butler's e-mail refers to being specific in the motion going to executive session.

MOTION by DeMarco, second by Balbier that the Council and Law Director adjourn to executive session to discuss matters of personnel relating to the Finance Department, specifically related to compensation issues of a public official. Councilwoman Paulitzky said she'd also like to invite Mayor Gallagher to be part of the meeting, with the Law Director. Chairwoman Pucci said she should first ask Councilman DeMarco if he would amend his motion. When asked, Councilman DeMarco said he would not. Chairwoman Pucci said she could make an amendment to the motion. **MOTION** by Paulitzky, second by Tanski to amend the motion to invite the Mayor to executive session. Chairwoman Pucci said the first vote is to amend Councilman DeMarco's motion to include the Mayor. Councilman Tanski asked Councilman DeMarco why, since the Mayor would be in contact with whoever the Finance Dir. would be, that he wouldn't want the Mayor present to know what's happening, and to interact with the new Finance Dir., why the secret? Councilman DeMarco said he made a motion, you can either vote yes or no. Councilman Tanski said he asked the question. Councilman DeMarco said he doesn't have an answer. After clearing confusion on the order of the motions, Chairwoman Pucci clarified by stating the amendment is to broaden the participation of the executive session to include the Mayor; a yes vote means the Mayor would be included, a no vote means the Mayor is not included. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To include the Mayor:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky. No: Balbier, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci. **(NOT APPROVED)**

Chairwoman Pucci said she's not sure exactly what they are discussing, as Councilman DeMarco said he wanted everyone to hear at the same time, and he may not be at the next Council meeting; but Council is a separate body from the Administration, and don't work for the Administration, but work together for the good of the city. If there's a reason a Councilperson would like to have a discussion just among Council, they should be given the benefit of the doubt, and is their prerogative as governing body of the city. Councilman Tanski said they voted on something, four voted no, but it's a secret that we don't know what we're going into. How does anybody vote no when we don't even know what we're doing? Going into a room, but it's a secret. Councilwoman Balbier said the city's full of secrets. Councilwoman Tomusko said Councilman DeMarco clarified his motion more, that he might have missed it *because he was late*. She also thinks the Mayor attends plenty of meetings the Council doesn't go to, and the separation of power, given the situation, is more important than ever, with this Council and this Mayor. The issue of the Mayor not being allowed in this meeting, she'll have opportunity to get briefed and discuss it; the Council is allowed as a body to discuss things without the Mayor. We need to understand the separation of power between the two bodies. Councilman DeMarco asked Chairwoman Pucci to re-read the motion he made for Councilman Tanski's understanding. Chairwoman Pucci said the motion was to discuss (paraphrasing) matters of personnel

relating to the Finance Department, specifically discussing the appointment and compensation of a public official. There is a motion and a second to go into executive session with the Council and Law Director (note the Law Dir. could be late because of a previous meeting.) **VOTE RESULTED:** *To adjourn to executive session:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci. No: None. **(ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

MOTION by DeMarco, second by Pucci to reconvene. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To reconvene:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci. No: None. **(RECONVENED)**

There being no further business, **MOTION** by DeMarco, second by Tomusko to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Adjourn:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Paulitzky, DeMarco, Tomusko, Pucci. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

Clerk of Council Pro-Tem

Meeting Chairperson