

The Common Council meeting on Tuesday, December 17 will be the last council meeting of the year and the last meeting where I will serve as Council President. I began writing council previews so that the public would be informed about matters that were on the council agenda before each meeting, as well as the context for council deliberations. Here are some of the resolutions that will be considered at this meeting:

Resolutions for consideration:

There is a resolution to approve the submission of a grant application by the Environmental Commission to plant 100 trees as part of a reforestation project to enhance the Passaic River floodplain.

There is a resolution authorizing the City to submit an application to NJ Transit for Summit Public Art to place a mural on the railroad abutment on Springfield Avenue. Summit Public Art has installed two murals this year in the downtown.

With the cancellation of the faux cobblestone project in the downtown and cost savings with other road improvement projects, there are three resolutions to approve change orders that will result in a savings of approximately \$213,000.

There is a resolution to rebid and seek a contract for the disposal of commingled recyclables from the Transfer Station. With fewer and fewer markets taking recyclables, finding companies that will collect and dispose of recyclables has become more challenging and costly.

There is a resolution to install a flashing pedestrian crosswalk beacon at the corner of Union Place and Summit Avenue using funds from the Safe Street to Transit grant. In the last two years, we have seen such beacons at highly trafficked streets, such as Morris Avenue & Elm Street, Kent Place Blvd. & DeForest Avenue and on Springfield Avenue at Briant Park.

There is a resolution to authorize installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Morris Avenue & Orchard Street. This will hopefully reduce the amount of traffic that uses Briant Parkway as a cut-through.

There are a series of resolutions that are typically adopted at the end of each year, such as salaries for City staff and engaging various legal counsel and other professionals.

There is a resolution to enter into an agreement with the Police Benevolent Association, which is the union that represents our police officers and police staff. If agreed upon, this would be the second contract that we have approved with a group of unionized workers. The prior agreement was with the firefighters union.

Finally, there is a resolution to ask the State Legislature to investigate the Open Public Records Act (“OPRA”) process as the demands of OPRA continue to increase and thus, putting strains on City resources.

To view the complete Common Council agenda, go to:

<https://www.cityofsummit.org/260/Common-Council>

Next Council Meeting: The Organization Meeting on Thursday, January 2, 2020. Please join us at the Reception at 7:00 pm. The meeting immediately follows at 7:30PM. Happy Holidays to all.