

1 JOINT HEARING ON PETITION TO ANNEX TERRITORY
2 FROM THE TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH TO
3 CITY OF PLATTSBURGH

4

5

6

7

October 21, 2021

8

5:00 p.m to 5:10 p.m.

9

41 City Hall Place

10

Plattsburgh, New York

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

APPEARANCES

FOR THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH:

Mayor Rosenquest
Beth Carlin, Assistant to Mayor
Dean Schneller, Esq.
Councilor Canales
Councilor Gibbs
Councilor Tallon
Councilor Bopp
Councilor Moore

FOR THE TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH:

Supervisor Cashman
Councilor Hebert
Councilor Kostyk
Councilor LeFevre
Councilor Wood
Councilor Bobbin
JAMES COFFEY, ESQ.
PIETRA G. ZAFFRAM, ESQ. (Via Zoom)

1 THE MAYOR: We are live on YouTube. Will you
2 join me for the pledge of allegiance?

3 (Pledge of allegiance)

4 THE MAYOR: Ms. Carlin, will you please conduct
5 the role call of both boards?

6 (Role call)

7 THE MAYOR: I'll now entertain a motion on a
8 resolution of the Common Council of the City of
9 Plattsburgh, New York to establish the Mayor, Chris
10 Rosenquest's meeting chair for the joint public hearing on
11 the petition for annexation of 15/27 Lemay Drive, motion by
12 councilor Canales, second by Councilor Bopp. Role call.

13 (Role Call)

14 SUPERVISOR CASHMAN: A resolution of the same of
15 the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh to establish a
16 meeting share for the joint public hearing of the petition
17 for the annexation of 15/27 Lemay Drive on October 21st,
18 2021. Waving the reading of the resolution, going straight
19 to the appointment of Chris Rosenquest of said chair. Is
20 there a motion?

21 COUNCILOR KOSTYK: So moved.

22 SUPERVISOR CASHMAN: Chuck Kostyk. Is there a
23 second?

1 COUNCILOR BOBBIN: Second.

2 SUPERVISOR CASHMAN: Meg Bobbin. Any discussion?

3 (No response)

4 SUPERVISOR CASHMAN: Seeing nothing further.

5 Role call, please.

6 (Role call)

7 SUPERVISOR CASHMAN: I'm also a voting member of
8 the council, I also vote in the affirmative.

9 THE MAYOR: Thank you. Carried. I'll now read a
10 joint statement of the joint public hearing of the City of
11 Plattsburgh and the Town of Plattsburgh regarding the
12 annexation of certain territory situated at the City of
13 Plattsburgh at 15/27 Lemay Drive on October 21st, 2021.

14 Thank you all for attending this joint public
15 hearing to provide comments concerning a petition for
16 annexation to the City Council and the Town Board. The
17 purpose of this public hearing is two-fold. First, it is
18 to provide you with information concerning the petition for
19 annexation. Second is to elicit comments from members of
20 the public about the proposed annexation so that each board
21 can determine whether the annexation is in the overall
22 public interest, which is the standard for approving or
23 rejecting the annexation under New York State General

1 Municipal Law. Following the municipal presentations,
2 members of the public who indicated they wish to speak on
3 the sign-in sheet will be called in turn. Anyone who
4 wishes to comment but did not indicate that they wished to
5 speak on the sign-in sheet will be given a chance to speak
6 at the end after we have gone through the sign-in sheet.

7 The New York State General Municipal Law, which
8 applies to all municipalities in New York State,
9 establishes the process governing annexation petitions.
10 Pursuant to the General Municipal Law, comments must be
11 limited to the issue of the Petition for Annexation,
12 specifically to the comments relating to the form or
13 content of the petition and comments relating to whether
14 the annexation is in the overall public interest.

15 Pursuant to the General Municipal Law, anyone who
16 objects to the form or content of the Petition must also
17 submit their objections in writing to the City Council
18 and/or the Town Board. This requirement to provide
19 comments in writing does not apply to objections or
20 comments regarding the issue of whether the annexation is
21 in the overall public interest.

22 To maintain order and decorum, the municipal
23 boards have also agreed on the following ground rules for

1 this evening's hearing. Each person's comments must be
2 limited to the length of five minutes. Anyone who exceeds
3 the limit will be asked to finish their comments briefly
4 and stop speaking. This is important to ensure everyone
5 here tonight who wants to speak has the opportunity to do
6 so. All comments must be directed to the boards, and not
7 to any one member or members of the audience. Please note
8 that the purpose of this hearing is not to provide a
9 question and answer session about the annexation. The
10 purpose is to just receive comments about the annexation
11 from the public.

12 Most importantly, the boards require that all
13 those attending be respectful of everyone else here
14 tonight, whether providing comments to the boards or simply
15 listening in the audience. Please remain quiet while
16 comments are being made to the boards so that we can hear
17 all the comments. All this will help ensure the boards
18 receive the information necessary to make their
19 determinations and will move this meeting along in an
20 orderly fashion. We thank you in advance for your courtesy
21 and cooperation.

22 I will now defer to Supervisor Cashman on the
23 presentation of the Petition for Annexation by the

1 applicant. I believe that's been entered into the record
2 as such.

3 SUPERVISOR CASHMAN: Thank you, Mayor Rosenquest.
4 First and foremost, I want to start by thanking our
5 colleagues from the City. It's been a real pleasure
6 working with you over the last several months and we look
7 forward to continuing the deep relationship with you.
8 Today we are here at a public hearing on something that is
9 an annexation, but really it's a boundary line adjustment
10 that is mutually beneficial, codified in the spirit of the
11 Plattsburgh Compact. So if you think about it, we've
12 talked about the who, the what, the where, you know, the
13 why, and today is the how. This is part of that process.
14 So I will keep my statements simple here and just request
15 that a copy of the Settlement Agreement be placed on the
16 record. There is also letter here to both the City and the
17 Town from the County, from the County Legislative Office.
18 There is also a letter here authored by senior planner
19 Trevor Cole placing on record, and there -- I believe that
20 is it, I just want to make one last -- yup, that should be
21 it from the records that we're taking to be put on file.

22 THE MAYOR: I'll now solicit responses by the
23 Town Board or the City Board, if any members of those

1 boards would like to make comment. Please?

2 A COUNCILMAN: I'm really excited about the
3 chance to cooperate and to work together to reach,
4 mutually, an agreement that, you know, really helps us
5 working in the future. I've been a proponent of this for
6 many years, and I'm just really glad that we're able to do
7 this. And I thank all the members of the boards and our
8 chair for working on this.

9 THE MAYOR: Thank you. Any other comments from
10 the Town Board members or the City Council?

11 (No response)

12 THE MAYOR: Seeing none, I will now go to the
13 sign-in sheet. Is there anybody here who -- unfortunately
14 I don't have the sign-in sheet over here or I would call
15 you by name, but is there anybody that would like to speak
16 to the boards of the public hearing? Mr. Coffey?

17 MR. COFFEY: No, I just signed in to indicate I
18 was present.

19 THE MAYOR: Thank you. Ms. Sponable?

20 MS. SPONABLE: Same thing.

21 THE MAYOR: Okay. Thank you. Same thing with
22 Ms. Provost?

23 MS. PROVOST: Yes.

1 THE MAYOR: Thank you. Mr. Day?

2 MR. DAY: I have two letters I'd like to read
3 into the record.

4 THE MAYOR: Please come up here. Thank you.

5 MR. DAY: I've got to take my mask off. Okay.
6 My name is Wallace Day, and I'm chairman of the Board of
7 Fire Commissioners for the South Plattsburgh Fire District.
8 The Board of Fire Commissioners is the authoritative body
9 for the South Plattsburgh Fire Department, and for the
10 record, we protect the area south of the Saranac River to
11 the Town of Plattsburgh and a small portion of the Town of
12 Schuyler Falls, including most of the new Plattsburgh Air
13 Force Base. Okay. My letters are identical, one is
14 addressed to Mayor Rosenquest, the other is addressed to
15 Supervisor Cashman, and they both read exactly the same,
16 but I'll give you each a copy for the record. Mayor
17 Rosenquest and Supervisor Cashman: Since we have not been
18 consulted during the above-mentioned process, the
19 annexation, we kindly ask that you place this process on
20 hold until we, the South Plattsburgh Fire District Board of
21 Fire Commissioners, have an opportunity to discuss possible
22 ramifications with our Attorney for our Fire District and
23 with our Bonding Company. We are bound by a process of

1 Alteration of Boundaries of the Fire Districts Section
2 172-A in the Laws of New York State. We are also a
3 district which is bonded, and therefore, we must confirm
4 that the process and value of property does not jeopardize
5 our bonding and the reports we must file annually.
6 Sincerely yours, and I signed it. The next letter is the
7 same, if anyone has any questions for me.

8 THE MAYOR: Thank you, sir. Appreciate it. I'll
9 enter the letters into the record. Thank you. There are
10 no more people on the list, on the sign-in sheet, is there
11 anybody who is in the audience who would wish to come and
12 speak specifically regarding this annexation?

13 (No response)

14 THE MAYOR: Seeing none, I will now take a motion
15 to adjourn this public hearing. Motion by Councilor
16 Canales, second by Councilor Gibbs. All in favor?

17 (All councilors respond in the affirmative)

18 THE MAYOR: Opposed?

19 (No response)

20 THE MAYOR: We are now adjourned. Thanks folks.

21

22 (End of hearing at 5:10 p.m.)

23

1 STATE OF NEW YORK)

2 COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE)

3

4

5 I, Heidi C. Simmons, a Notary Public in the state of
6 New York, do hereby certify that the foregoing public
7 meeting was taken before me at the place as stated in the
8 caption hereto, at Page 1 hereof; that the foregoing
9 typewritten transcription of testimony, consisting of pages
10 numbered 3 to 10, inclusive, was produced to the best of my
11 ability of said meeting.

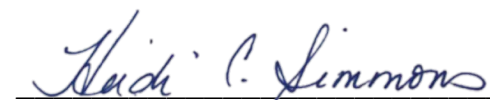
12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my
13 name, this the 3rd day of November, 2021.

14

15

16

17



18

Heidi C. Simmons, Notary Public
State of New York

19

County of St. Lawrence

20

My commission expires: 08/27/25

21

22

23