

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 370

EFFECTIVE ~~XXXXXX~~ August 4, 2005

RESOLVED, That the City Council hereby authorizes the hiring of an attorney, under the provisions of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, As Amended, Section 410(d), relative to the review of the proposed amendments to the City of Providence Zoning Ordinance, in a total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.

CITY COUNCIL
JUL 21 2005
READ AND PASSED
[Signature]
PRES.
[Signature]
Acting CLERK

[Signature]
VETOED 8/1/05

CITY COUNCIL
AUG 4 2005
READ AND MAYOR'S VETO
NOT SUSTAINED
[Signature] Acting CLERK

Effective without the Mayor's Signature:

[Signature]
Claire E. Bestwick
Acting City Clerk

1954

1954

1954

Council President Lombardi, Councilmen Aponte, Butler, DeLuca, Councilwoman DeBuzzo,
Councilmen Hassett, Iglizzi, Jackson, Luna, Councilwoman Roman, Councilman Segal,
Councilwomen Williams and Young.

Anna Stetson

To: Sherri Petronio
Subject: resolutions

Resolved, that the City Council hereby retains R. Kelly Sheridan,, under the provisions of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as Amended, Section 401(d), relative to the removal of the Ten Commandments Monument, in a total amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

Resolved, that the City Council hereby authorizes the hiring of an attorney, under the provisions of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as Amended, Section 401(d), relative to the review of the proposed amendments to the City of Providence Zoning Ordinance, in a total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.

Resolved, that the City Council hereby authorizes the hiring of a Planning Consultant for the review of the proposed amendments to the City of Providence Zoning Ordinance, in a total amount not to exceed \$75,000.00.

Anna M. Stetson
Second Deputy City Clerk
Providence City Hall
401-421-7740 x 568



7/14/2005



Mayor of Providence

David N. Cicilline

August 1, 2005

Councilman John J. Lombardi
Providence City Council President
City Hall
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Council President Lombardi:

I respectfully submit the following communication to you and the honorable members of the Providence City Council in response to the Resolutions relative to the hiring of an attorney and a Planning Consultant for the review of proposed amendments to the City of Providence Zoning Ordinance.

I am exercising veto authority, as established by the Providence Home Rule Charter, in disapproval of the Resolutions.

Ultimately the City Council has the discretion to allocate funding for the hiring of consultants, in accordance with Section 401(d) of the Providence Home Rule Charter. I respect this authority vested in the Legislative Branch of our city government. I have on many occasions supported the Council's decision to engage such consultants. However, in this instance I believe this expenditure of taxpayers' dollars, with the potential to total \$150,000, is both wasteful and unnecessary.

For over one year, the Department of Planning and Development allocated significant staff time, energy and resources toward the zoning ordinance re-write. A total of five staff members, over the course of thirteen months, focused a majority of their efforts on the ordinance now before the Providence City Council. In addition, this zoning ordinance rewrite is the culmination of an unprecedented community engagement effort by Providence residents, who volunteered their time and energy to complete this work. Through the hard work and input of over sixty residents and volunteers, working since November 2004, the Zoning Commission produced a roadmap for the future of development and growth in Providence.

Elected officials, who provide an essential perspective in shaping Providence's future, also participated in the work of the Zoning Commission over these many months. Councilman Luis Aponte and Councilwoman Rita Williams collaborated with architects, planners, neighborhood representatives, and business owners to provide invaluable insight, raise concerns, and offer alterations to the original zoning ordinance proposal. Public meetings held throughout the City in June offered residents additional opportunities to learn of key changes to the zoning ordinance and provide their comment.

City of Providence, Rhode Island 02903
Phone (401) 421-7740 Fax (401) 274-8240

Letter to Council President

August 1, 2005

Page 2 of 2

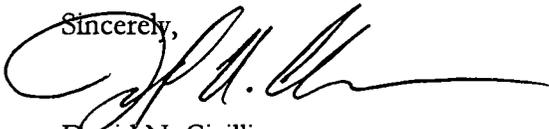
Throughout this process Deputy Solicitor Adrienne Southgate monitored the work of the Zoning Commission and served as legal advisor to commission members and staffers on a multitude of issues pertinent to the ordinance. Furthermore, Assistant Deputy Solicitor Frederick Stolle served as a Zoning Commission subcommittee member. Both Deputy Solicitor Southgate, and Assistant Deputy Solicitor Stolle have provided sound legal advice to the City Council on matters of zoning and development in the past, and have provided invaluable assistance in the drafting of the proposed zoning ordinance currently before the City Council. All of this expertise remains available to the members of the City Council.

Each member of the City Council should have received a copy of the Citizen's Guide to Proposed Zoning Changes, prepared by the Department of Planning and Development. The document details the guiding principles of the process, district specific changes, and alterations to regulations and development procedures contained in the proposed zoning ordinance. In addition, each member of the City Council should have also received correspondence from both the Director of Planning and Development and myself, which offered the services of planning staff and welcomed the continuing participation and input of the City Council as the Committee on Ordinances begins its review of the proposal.

I have maintained that this endeavor be an open and inclusive process, encouraging the participation of the multitude of stakeholders in the development and growth of Providence. The professionalism, expertise, and guidance of trained and qualified staff from the Department of Planning and Development, as well as the City Solicitor's Office, remains available at all times to the Providence City Council as they continue their review and assessment of the proposed zoning ordinance. Given that the City of Providence currently employs individuals with the needed expertise and experience in matters of zoning and development necessary for the ordinance re-write, an additional and sizeable allocation for an outside planning consultant and attorney is an improvident and wasteful expenditure of taxpayers' dollars.

I strongly urge the honorable members of the City Council to reconsider their resolutions for the hiring of a planning consultant and attorney for the review of the proposed amendments to the City of Providence Zoning Ordinance. Further, I respectfully request the City Council to take full advantage of the expertise and knowledge of the trained professionals presently employed by the City of Providence who have guided this process over the past year.

Sincerely,



David N. Cicilline
Mayor

cc: Honorable Members, Providence City Council