

**ANNOTATED AGENDA**  
**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS**  
**STATED MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Committee of the Whole 7:30 P.M.  
Stated Meeting 8:00 P.M.  
City Council Chambers

TIME: 8:15PM

PRESENT:           PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL  
                          LIAM J. MCLAUGHLIN

DISTRICT:

          6           MAJORITY LEADER JOHN J. LARKIN - ABSENT  
          3           MINORITY LEADER MICHAEL R. SABATINO

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
DISTRICT:

          1           CHRISTOPHER A. JOHNSON  
          2           CORAZON PINEDA  
          4           DENNIS E. SHEPHERD  
          5           MICHAEL B. BREEN

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a minute of silence to invoke God's guidance and Blessing upon our deliberations.

Minutes of the stated meeting held on January 29, 2015 approved on motion of Minority Leader Sabatino.

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**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

**NONE**

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**COMMUNICATIONS - GENERALLY**

**NONE**

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**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**SPEAKERS**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>ADDRESS</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>
1. MARIA GEORGE	YONKERS RESIDENT	2

**ANNOTATED AGENDA**  
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**RESOLUTION NO.15-2015**

1. BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCLAUGHLIN, MINORITY LEADER SABATINO, COUNCILMEMBERS JOHNSON, PINEDA, SHEPHERD AND BREEN:

RESOLUTION ISSUING A HOME RULE MESSAGE FOR SENATE BILL 549 and ASSEMBLY BILL 02008.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S549 and Assembly Bill A02008 have been introduced by the New York State Legislature for the purposes of authorizing the City of Yonkers to impose a room occupancy tax in an amount not to exceed three (3%) percent for the daily use of any room in a hotel, motel or similar establishment; and

WHEREAS, a home rule message is required in order to pass these bills, which will then allow the City to adopt legislation providing for the adoption of the law by the City of Yonkers and the imposition of the tax; and

WHEREAS, this tax has been successfully used in providing needed revenues to neighboring cities of New Rochelle, Rye and White Plains while preserving the economic viability of these communities; and

WHEREAS, revenues from the occupancy tax will assist the City of Yonkers in providing essential services to its residents while maintaining a balanced budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Yonkers hereby issues this Home Rule Request message for Senate Bill S549 and Assembly Bill A02008, which, among other things, provides that the City of Yonkers may impose a daily room occupancy tax in an amount not to exceed three (3%) percent for use of any room in a hotel, motel or similar establishment; and

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**RESOLUTION NO.15-2015 (CONTINUED)**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution, suitably engrossed along with all necessary forms, including the Home Rule Request (request of a local government for enactment of a special law) form, be certified and transmitted to the City Clerk to the Legislature of the State of New York requesting passage of the aforesaid bills to the Home Rule Counsel of the State Senate and the Home Rule Counsel of the State Assembly pursuant to the rules of the State Senate and the State Assembly.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A STATED MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015 BY A VOTE OF 6-0. MAJORITY LEADER LARKIN WAS ABSENT

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**RESOLUTION NO.16-2015**

2. BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCLAUGHLIN, MINORITY LEADER SABATINO, COUNCILMEMBERS JOHNSON, PINEDA, SHEPHERD AND BREEN:

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS  
MOURNING THE DEATH OF RITA GROSS-NELSON, DISTINGUISHED  
CITIZEN AND DEVOTED MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, it is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great City of Yonkers; and

WHEREAS, Rita Gross-Nelson of Yonkers, New York, the Daughter of Edmund O. and Aurelia Austin passed away on January 28th, 2015, at the age of 77; and;

WHEREAS it is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Rita Gross-Nelson, noting the significance of her purposeful life and accomplishments; throughout her career and life, she served her community and the people of the City of Yonkers with intelligence and caring dedication, contributing significantly to the quality of life in the communities of this great city; and

WHEREAS, an honorably discharged Veteran of the United States Air Force and a retired Yonkers Police Officer, Rita Gross-Nelson held the distinction of being the first African American Woman hired to the Department; she also served as the Court Liaison for the Yonkers Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, her love of children and family was her passion; Rita Gross-Nelson devoted much of her life to the protection and enhancement of their lives in the Yonkers community; and

WHEREAS, Rita Gross-Nelson distinguished herself in her profession and by her sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of her community; the sacrifice and contributions made each day by police officers to protect our society and well-being, which permit us to live and work in freedom and safety, can never fully be repaid; and



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**RESOLUTION NO.16-2015 (CONTINUED)**

WHEREAS, Rita Gross-Nelson's commitment to excellence, and her spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by her parents and granddaughter, Miranda George, she leaves behind to mourn; her beloved daughters, Maria Gross George, Celleste Gross Gilbert, Carol Gross and a host of "Adopted" sons and daughters; as well as three grandchildren, one great grandchild; and her sisters, Vicki Gaither and Margaret Gross; and

WHEREAS, armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Rita Gross-Nelson leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all she served and befriended;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Rita Gross-Nelson, distinguished citizen and devoted member of her community; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Rita Gross-Nelson.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A STATED MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015 BY A VOTE OF 6-0. MAJORITY LEADER LARKIN WAS ABSENT

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

THIS MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:28pm IN MEMORY OF  
RITA GROSS – NELSON.