

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2024

6:30PM

LOCAL LAW “A” OF 2024 (to be known as Local Law “1” of 2024 if adopted)

**LOCAL LAW ABOLISHING SECTION C-132 OF THE CITY CHARTER
PERTAINING TO A CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD**

BY: MAYOR CINQUANTI

Section 1: Legislative Intent: By way of background, the City Charter contains a section, specifically, Section C-132 pertaining to a Citizens Review Board adopted by the City prior to 1970. The Citizens Review Board has been dormant for several years, perhaps decades. It is believed that the board has been dormant for many reasons, including the complicated and antiquated procedures set forth therein, not only containing substantive flaws relating to the investigation and disposition of prospective complaints but also in the procedure relating to the establishment of members to this board. For example, in recent years, a single write-in ballot resulted in notification to individuals who did not know anything about the Citizens Review Board or the write ballot, etc. Moreover and separately, the issues and safeguards intended to be addressed by the Citizens Review Board have been subsequently addressed elsewhere in City government since the time of adoption of C-132. This includes Amsterdam City Code, Chapter 23 “Ethics”, with specific regard to the Board of Ethics that was adopted and established in 1970. Additionally, a component of the Reform and Reinvention Plan for the Amsterdam Police Department adopted in 2021 provides additional safeguards as it pertains to personnel of the Amsterdam Police Department. No funding or financial appropriation exists in the City budget for any function of the Citizens Review Board.

Section 2: Enactment

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMSTERDAM AS
FOLLOWS:**

Section C-132 of the Amsterdam City Charter - “Citizens Review Board” - is hereby abolished and removed.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2024

6:30PM

Section 3: Effectiveness: A public hearing having been held on March 19, 2024 and upon ratification by Common Council, the instant Local Law shall become effective pursuant to C-33 of the Charter.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 19, 2024 6:25PM.

LOCAL LAW ADOPTED. Alderwoman Quist-Demars was absent.

City of Amsterdam, NY

	Aye	Nay
Alderwoman Quist-Demars		absent
Alderman Holoday	√	
Alderwoman Collins	√	
Alderman Carpenter	√	
Alderman Martuscello	√	

March 20
MICHAEL CINQUANTI, MAYOR
DATED: March 20, 2024

This is to certify that I, Stefanie Gerken, City Clerk of the City of Amsterdam, County of Montgomery, State of New York, that the above is the original Local Law, passed by the City of Amsterdam Common Council on March 19, 2024, a majority of all members elected to the Council voting in favor.

I have set my hand and the official seal of the City of Amsterdam this 20th day of March, 2024.

Stefanie Gerken
CITY CLERK

CITY SEAL

Received & Filed in the Office of the City Clerk: 3/20/24

Received by: SG