

## Item 24-0210: Resolution #2-R-24 Consolidate the Utilities Committee with the Municipal Services Committee

Common Council - Organizational Meeting

Wed, Apr 17, 2024, 6:00PM

**Mayor Jake Woodford** 31:46

So, now on to proposed changes to department and committee functions. First is item 24-0210 resolution 2-R-24 consolidate utilities committee with municipal services. Motion to approve. And we have a motion and a second. Alder van Zeeland.

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5)** 32:14

Thank you, Chair. I'm not going to read it this evening, but just a reminder that Alder Doran did provide us with comments, and as the author I think it's important to review those comments Thank you.

**Mayor Jake Woodford** 32:25

Further discussion. Alder Meltzer.

**Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2)** 32:32

Thank you. I encourage everyone to vote against this. This consolidation lacks foresight. It would cause problems for the municipal services committee. It would not do justice to the utility ratepayers it. While we do sometimes have a very slow agenda for the utilities committee, throughout cycles from year to year that can pick up and change. Even if it's just a part of the year we need to provide that appropriate allotted individual space for the utility committee to have its own business to avoid transparency issues, avoid energy having to be spent to prioritize what can fit with the crowded municipal services budget, etc. So, I would encourage you all to defeat this. And also keep in mind the comments shared from staff last night. Thank you.

**Mayor Jake Woodford** 33:28

Alder Alfheim.

**Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11)** 33:31

Thank you, Chair. I hope that we do vote no on this. I think we all should be open to ideas of finding efficiencies and condensing things. My problem is when a colleague decides what would or would not construe efficiency without talking to the staff. The staff has made it very clear that this in no way helps them. So, with that being said, just vote no.

**Mayor Jake Woodford** 33:57

Any further discussion? Hearing none, we have a motion and a second to approve. What we're going to do is a vote notwithstanding just for the sake of clarity. So, an aye vote would approve the consolidation of the committees; a no vote defeats the consolidation of committees. Everyone clear? Okay. With that, please cast your votes. Right, the motion fails.