Wyatt - Establishment of a Citizens Review Board

Whereas on May 25, 2020, our world suffered its 3rd pandemic with the death of another unarmed black man George Floyd as a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds until Floyd’s death, which has ignited a national and worldwide outrage of protests of the mistreatment of African Americans;

Whereas on June 12, 2020, in Atlanta, GA, the shooting death of Rayshard Brooks for sleeping in his car at a Wendy’s drive-thru has further exploded additional outrage and demand for change in National Policing Practices;

Whereas on March 3, 1991 Rodney King was beaten savagely by several Los Angeles police officers in plain view—although the four officers were charged with civil rights violations, they were acquitted in 1992;

Whereas In November 2006 and African American Woman Police Officer did what other Police Officers sworn to protect and serve should have done when abusing their power in choking a man on a Police Call where she intervened possibly saving his life….Cariol Horne a 19 year veteran of the Buffalo Police Department lost her job and pension for standing up for life of civilian;

Whereas from 1991 until the present day, African Americans issues with policing have been in plain view where unarmed black people have been either shot and killed or choked to death, without any justice, including victims George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Eric Garner, India Cummings, and many more;

Whereas the cities of Rochester and Syracuse, NY, and Pittsburgh, PA, have successfully incorporated citizens review boards that have been proactively engaging and hearing from the public and independently investigating and reviewing complaints recommending action regarding police misconduct; and

Whereas The City of Buffalo is the second largest in New York State and must act, moving swiftly responding to the demand of residents of Buffalo, the country and the world, to improve community policing practices and procedures: Now, Therefore Be It

Resolved that The City of Buffalo Common Council-

1) Requests Corporation Counsel to research the establishment of a Buffalo Citizens Review Board and have a recommendation returned within 15 days of the passing of this resolution;
2) Directs Council Staff to research the cost for such venture using the successful citizen review boards from the above referenced cities as models; and

3) Directs the City Clerk to forward copies of this resolution to the mayor’s office, the Buffalo Police Department, the PBA, the Erie County district attorney, and the NYS attorney general.

Adopt resolves, remainder to LEG

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

ADOPTED RESOLVES, REMAINDER TO LEG

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULT:</th>
<th>ADOPTED [7 TO 2]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOVER:</td>
<td>David A. Rivera, Majority Leader, Niagara Dist. Council Member</td>
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<td>SECONDER:</td>
<td>Rasheed N.C. Wyatt, University District Council Member</td>
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<td>AYES:</td>
<td>Bollman, Feroletto, Nowakowski, Pridgen, Rivera, Wingo Sr, Wyatt</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAYS:</td>
<td>Joseph Golombek Jr, Christopher P. Scanlon</td>
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