WHEREAS, on July 6, 2013, a train loaded with 72 cars carrying crude oil derailed during the night and exploded in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec. A series of explosions and a fire completely destroyed more than 30 buildings including the municipal library, the town’s archives, heritage buildings, businesses and residences. Forty-seven people were killed by the explosion; and

WHEREAS, the accident also destroyed a central water line, forcing the people of Lac-Mégantic to boil their water. It is estimated that 10,000 litres of oil leaked into Mégantic lake and the Chaudière river, a river that crosses Beauce before it enters the St. Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, the people of Lac-Mégantic asked for change so that this type of tragedy did not happen again. They knew the tragedy was the result of a systemic problem: the increasing transport of crude oil next to population centers and environmentally fragile areas relying on safety standards developed decades ago; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2013 an oil train derailed in Aliceville, Alabama; on December 30, 2013 an oil train derailed in Casselton, North Dakota; on April 30, 2014 an oil train derailed in Lynchburg, Virginia; on May 9, 2014 an oil train derailed in LaSalle, Colorado; and on May 12, 2014 four Canadian Pacific Railway crude-oil carrying rail cars derailed in Albany, New York’s Kenwood Rail Yard. While these derailments and their explosions did not cause the catastrophe and loss of life as the derailment in Canada, the United States government has still not taken action to prevent the loss of life and property that is possible with these derailments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Albany pauses in its deliberations to remember the lives lost on July 6, 2013 in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec and declare “Aujourd’hui, nous sommes tous des citoyens de Lac-Mégantic.” (Today, we are all citizens of Lac-Mégantic).

The resolution passed by the following voice vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:

Affirmative 14 Negative 0 Abstain 0

Resolution Number 82.71.14R was co-sponsored by Council Members Bailey, Commisso, Conti, Doesschate, Fahey Flynn, Herring, Igoe, Kimbrough, Krasher, O’Brien and Robinson.

Council Member Herring introduced RESOLUTION NUMBER 63.61.14R, asked for passage and a roll call vote thereon:

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF ANTON PASQUILL AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Albany has, pursuant to the provisions of Article 3 of the City Charter appointed Anton Pasquill as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Anton Pasquill is confirmed as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals to fill an unexpired term, ending December 31st, 2015.

Passed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected in favor thereof:
Resolution Number 63.61.14R was co-sponsored by Council Member Krasher.

Council Member Kornegay moved to amend RESOLUTION NUMBER 42.52.14R and as amended, asked for passage and a roll call vote thereon:

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A PAYMENT IN-LIEU OF TAXES (PILOT) AGREEMENT WITH HISTORIC PASTURES MANSIONS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND COMPANY, INC. AND HISTORIC PASTURES MANSIONS, LLC

WHEREAS, Historic Pastures Mansions Housing Development Fund Company, Inc. (the “HDFC”) is a not-for-profit corporation established pursuant to Section 402 of the New York State Not-For-Profit Corporation Law and Article XI of the New York State Private Housing Finance Law (“PHFL”); and

WHEREAS, the HDFC has been organized exclusively for the charitable purpose of providing housing accommodations to persons and families of low income; and

WHEREAS, Liberty Affordable Housing Inc., a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation is the sole member of the HDFC and is the sole member of Liberty CNY Housing, LLC, the managing member of Historic Mansions Pastures, LLC (the “Company”); and

WHEREAS, the Company’s and the HDFC’s plan for the use of the properties, which are more particularly identified in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made part hereof, consists of the redevelopment of approximately two-hundred forty six (246) residential rental units in eighty-seven (87) buildings for persons and families of low-income, constitutes a “housing project” as that term is defined in Section 572 of the PHFL (the “Project”) and will be located and situated in the City and County of Albany, State of New York (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the HDFC is the nominal fee owner of the Property; and

WHEREAS, the HDFC has or will acquire fee title to the Property, as nominee for the Company, and has or will convey its equitable and beneficial interests in the Property to the Company in furtherance of the development of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the HDFC is organized as a “housing development fund company” as the term is defined in Section 572 of the PHFL; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 577 of the PHFL, the Common Council may exempt a project of a housing development fund company from local and municipal taxes, including school taxes, other than assessments for local improvements, to the extent of all or a part of the value of the property included in the completed project for a period of up to forty (40) thirty-two (32) years.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Property and the Project shall be exempt from real property taxes to the extent described in Section 577 of the PHFL for a period of forty (40) thirty-two (32) years, including city, county and school taxes, other than assessments for local approvals, and that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized and empowered to execute and enter into a PILOT agreement with the Company