

Where to Find Information on Some NYC Governing Bodies

by Christine Bruzzese

Board of Estimate. The City Hall Library maintains a collection of the *Journal of Proceedings* of the Board of Estimate from 1879 to 1967 on microfilm. From 1968 to 1981 the proceedings are available in hard copy. This publication includes summaries of what took place regarding each calendar, reports, resolutions and results of votes. They are indexed by topic. From 1981 to 1990, only calendars are available without any index. Additional files pertaining to individual Board of Estimate calendars are stored off-site and may be retrieved by requesting them from Library staff. It is necessary to know the exact date and calendar number. Please allow up to a week for processing.

Common Council, Board of Aldermen, Municipal Assembly. The predecessor to the City Council, this entity was known by several different names throughout its existence. Summaries of proceedings are available in hard copy from 1665 to 1776 and 1784 to 1937. On microfilm, Board of Aldermen minutes are kept from 1831 to 1897, while accompanying documents appear from 1831 to 1884. Board of Assistant Aldermen documents can also be located on microfilm for the years 1831 to 1853 and 1869 to 1874.

City Council. Proceedings, calendars, resolutions, Local Laws and bills are all kept from 1938 to the present in hard copy. The City Hall Library does not maintain a collection of bill jackets, legislative histories or Council

committee reports for Local Laws. These materials may possibly be found at the Municipal Archives by requesting Local Law folders by year and number.

Brooklyn Board of Aldermen. From 1854 until consolidation with New York in 1897, Brooklyn was an independent city, governed by its own Board of Aldermen. The City Hall Library keeps the proceedings for these years in hard copy. Microfilm holdings cover the years 1889 to 1897.