

**Special Meeting held** The special meeting of the City of Port Jervis Common Council was held in the Council Chambers, 20 Hammond Street, Port Jervis, New York on Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

**Attendance** Mayor Decker and all members of the Common Council were present except Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Waligroski. City Clerk Treasurer Robin Waizenegger Police Chief William Worden were also present.

**Pledge of Allegiance** Mayor Decker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Council conducted the meeting in the Mayor's Conference Room.

A handout was given to those present at the meeting.

Mr. Robert Conflitti, Executive Assistant District Attorney, and Ms. Darlene DeJesus, Assistant District Attorney, gave a presentation of the Community Prosecution program. Mr. Conflitti stated that, although the program is new in this area, the program began in Portland, Oregon approximately twenty-five (25) years ago. Traditionally, prosecutor's offices are reactive, and the Community Prosecution program attempts to deal with issues to prevent crimes from happening. The police chief has been mapping police calls to assist the needs assessment. The program seeks to open lines of communication with communities and work with police departments, school districts, anti-drug coalitions, chambers of commerce, and service clubs to exchange information and ideas and to develop solutions to deal with crime.

The asset forfeiture program is a strategy used in an attempt to take the profit out of crime and to remove the instrumentalities away from those who commit crimes, such as seizing cars from drunk drivers or homes used in selling drugs. Mr. Conflitti and the Council discussed how funds from seizures are distributed.

The narcotics eviction program targets those selling drugs out of apartments. Landlords can be notified to evict tenants who are participating in illegal drug activities, and the landlords can be charged with an administrative fee if they do not comply.

School initiatives will be used in school districts to educate parents in preventing drug addiction and to foster a change in a school's environment that will be similar to the existing community's anti-drug coalition model. Mayor Decker, who had served as DARE officer for ten (10) years in the Port Jervis School District, spoke about smoking and marijuana use. Some truancy programs have had limited effectiveness, but a one which involves parents of truant students may provide results.

Ms. DeJesus spoke about DWI prevention initiatives, which includes a substance evaluation and deterrence factors, and domestic violence cases, which include evidence-based prosecution without the complainant. Mrs. Waizenegger asked about resources available for the complainant, and Ms. DeJesus suggested the use of an organization such as Safe Homes.

The County has been divided into seven (7) regions. Port Jervis is part of Region 1, along with Deepark, Greenville, Minisink, Mount Hope, Otisville, and Unionville. Town hall meetings, emails, and telephone calls can be used as means of communication. Mr. Conflitti encouraged the City to consider participating in the Community Prosecution program.

**Meeting adjourned** Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Hendrick, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

AYE: 7 ABSENT: 1 (CUNNINGHAM) NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

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Robin Waizenegger  
City Clerk Treasurer