

February 20, 2013

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A special meeting of the City of Port Jervis Common Council was held in the Council Chambers, 20 Hammond Street, Port Jervis, New York on Monday, February 20, 2013 at 8:00 p.m.

Special Meeting

Mayor Potter and all members of the Common Council were present. Director of Public Works Vincent Lopez, Assistant Director of Public Works John Farr, Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer Sandy Decker, and Corporation Counsel Damian Brady were also present.

Attendance

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Potter stated that this special meeting of the Council was to address a serious sewer main break on Jersey Avenue, which will cost tens of thousands of dollars to repair and must be repaired immediately.

Mr. Lopez explained that an eighteen inch (18") terra cotta main sewer line that is eighteen feet (18') below Jersey Avenue had collapsed. Repairs cannot be completed "in house" by Public Works staff, so Colonnelli Brothers has been contacted in regards to the repairs. This company has previously done work for the City and also for Orange and Rockland. The contractor can mobilize a crew and arrive on February 21, 2013 with a bypass pump that is required by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Mr. Lopez estimates a minimum of three (3) days for the repairs but noted that more time may be needed depending on the actual damage to the line.

Mr. Waligroski asked if the contractor can begin this evening. Mr. Lopez stated that the crew would be unable to mobilize and begin repairs tonight. He added that this will not be an inexpensive repair and will have accurate rates tomorrow. DPW and Department of Environmental Protection Agency (DEP) staff will be working overnight to ensure compliance with DEC requirements. Mr. Lopez extended his thanks to the DEP workers who are on-site, working with the City's staff.

Mr. Waligroski expressed his concerns about the impact on businesses in that area. Mr. Siegel noted that once the pump is replaced, the opening made in the street would be concern for restricting traffic flow. Mr. Decker commented that the owner of Dollar General has offered to open a portion of their parking lot to provide parking for tenants and thoroughfare for local business traffic that will be affected during this time.

Mr. Siegel, Mr. Lopez, and Mr. Oney spoke about making a more extensive replacement of the line and potential costs associated with the additional work.

The DEC requires the City to bypass the break or be issued a violation. The Fire Department is also on the scene to assist. Mr. Lopez added that no fluid reached the surface, and there is no interruption of service. Mr. Lopez detailed how the problem was identified and actions taken thus far.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mr. Hendrick, to allow DPW to continue repairs on the damaged sewer line and to proceed with repairs.

The cost is estimated to be between \$30,000.00 to \$90,000.00.

AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Mr. Oney thanked the DPW staff for their work with this emergency. Mr. Waligroski and Mr. Oney spoke about the importance for the sewer machine and camera. Mr. Lopez again thanked the DEP staff for their excellent work and assistance.

Mr. Brady noted that Mr. Lopez will be on-site to monitor the situation in regards to time and materials. The Council will be kept informed and an update will be given at Monday's Common Council meeting.

Motion by Mr. Decker, seconded by Mr. Ritchie, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Meeting adjourned

AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

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Sandy L. Decker  
Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer