

The regular meeting of the City of Port Jervis Common Council was held in the Council Chambers, 20 Hammond Street, Port Jervis, New York on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Mayor Decker and all members of the Common Council were present. Recreation Director John Faggione, Acting Director of Public Works John Farr, Acting Building Official Laurie Powrie, Fire Chief Jeffrey Rhoades, Police Sergeant James Flynn, City Clerk-Treasurer Robin Waizenegger, and Corporation Counsel William Bavoso were also present.

Attendance

Mayor Decker and Scouts Valerie Bodenieck of Scout Troop 378, Xandra Ellison of Troop 286, and Jackson Ellison of Lions Den 173 led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Youth Report, given by Mr. Michael Conklin, included the following:

Youth Report given

- Spring sports are doing well.
- Congratulations were extended to the boys' varsity tennis and golf teams.
- The spring blood drive was a success.
- Various school spring concerts will be held soon.
- Schools will be closed for the Memorial Day recess.
- The next school board meeting will be May 22, 2104 at 7:30 p.m.
- Deerpark Safety Day will be held May 17, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Decker wished Mr. Conklin a happy birthday.

There was no Senior Report given.

Senior Report given

Mr. Tom Bongiovi and Ms. Loreli Case of the Port Jervis School District discussed the 2014-2015 proposed budget of \$63.8 million that will be presented to voters on May 20, 2014. The budget includes a \$1.7 million increase, representing a 2.2% tax increase, at an estimated cost to taxpayers of \$5.00 or less.. Two (2) teaching positions will be eliminated by attrition, and one (1) elementary librarian position and one (1) special education position will be added. There are five (5) candidates vying for three (3) School Board seats. The budget newsletter will be mailed to residents next week. Ms. Case also spoke about the \$5.2 million referendum. There will be the instructional and safety/security components, which include improvements in smart boards, lighting, cabinetry, doors, and a ramp. A second component will be the creation of a repair reserve fund of up to \$500,000 if needed. Mayor Decker asked if the addition of a generator at the High School complex would allow the building to be used as a shelter. Ms. Case stated that it would open up the issue for discussion. Mr. Siegel asked about the status of Sullivan Avenue School. Mr. Bongiovi stated that the School Board took action two (2) months ago, and Easter Seals will be keeping the property.

Special Presentations —Port Jervis School District Proposed Budget and Energy in the Bank

CEO Herb Ortiz and Developmental Specialist Jennifer Girsdansky of Energy in the Bank, a renewable energy developer and financier, spoke about solar, wind, and new technologies that could be used by the City to reduce electric costs. The company does the financing for projects, working with large investors, construction companies, and technology firms, and Mr. Ortiz highlighted projects in Irving, New Jersey and Roscoe, New York. He discussed the benefits of using solar energy for reducing electric expenses for not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, schools, and places of worship were detailed. An audit of the City's electric bills and a letter of intent would be the next step in moving forward. Mrs. Kathy Hylas asked about savings and future costs. Mr. Ortiz briefly discussed the City's cost of purchasing the system at fair market value, the option of renewing the Power Purchase agreement, and the inclusion of an annual escalator in the cost of the system. Mayor Decker stated that the Council will discuss this in Executive Session, and he will contact the company.

Mrs. Kathy Hylas, representing the Port Jervis Council for the Arts, announced a spring concert being held on May 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Deerpark Reformed Church. Tickets are available at various businesses in the City. Orange County Tourism is a sponsor of this performance, and there will also be an art show and plant sale prior to the concert.

Public Comment given

Mr. Adam Scopino, Jr., 2nd Ward resident, spoke about the still-vacant Second Ward Council seat.

Mrs. Anne Horsham shared information about immunization clinics in Newburgh, Middletown, and Goshen.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Reed commented on the difficulties they have encountered getting the travel vouchers for pregnant women and asked the Council to help in educating the community of the availability of the vouchers. Mayor Decker spoke about a letter he has sent to the Orange County Commissioner for the Department of Health concerning this issue.

May 12, 2014

Mrs. Laura Myers discussed her concerns about speeding vehicles in the City. She suggested installing temporary speed bumps. Mayor Decker noted that the City has speed limit signs posted at the entrances to the City and speed bumps, even those that are temporary, could not be installed. He did state, however, that he would look into the issue.

Minutes of the
4/28/2014
Regular
approved

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Siegel, to accept the minutes of the April 28, 2014 regular meeting.

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

Committee
Reports given—
Finance
Committee

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to approve the unpaid bills in the following amounts for payment: General Fund - \$113,894.14, Water Fund - \$10,361.65, and Capital Fund - \$6,789.84.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

The next Finance Committee meeting is May 19, 2014 after Department of Public Works (DPW) and Fire and Emergency Management meetings.

Fire and
Emergency
Management
(FEM)
Committee

April fire calls were detailed.

The next FEM Committee meeting will be May 19, 2014 following the DPW Committee meeting.

Code
Committee

Items from the Building Official's April report were highlighted.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to set a public hearing for May 27, 2014 for proposed Local Law #7-2014 concerning the City's Film and Video Production Procedure.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

The next Code Committee meeting will be June 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Department of
Public Works
(DPW)
Committee

The DPW Update included the following: garbage and recycling will be on a normal schedule for the next two (2) weeks and be delayed one (1) day the week of the Memorial Day holiday, bagged leaves and tied brush will be picked up in all wards each Monday for May, and fire hydrant flushing continues.

The next DPW Committee meeting will be May 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Police
Committee

A reminder was given about the seminar to support the Police Department's DARE program on May 19, 2014 at the Erie Tracks. Those wishing to attend this dinner seminar must pre-register. The \$15 registration fee will be donated to the DARE program.

The Police Memorial Bicycle Tour stopped in Port Jervis on May 6, 2014.

The next Police Committee meeting will be June 2, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Liaison Reports
given—
Community
Development
Agency (CDA)

Mr. Cunningham spoke about the 2013 and 2014 Community Development Block Grant funding programs. Possible projects for both years' applications have been discussed. Deadlines for both years are in June, and public hearings will be held at the end of May.

The next CDA meeting will be May 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Recreation Center.

Industrial
Development
Agency (IDA)

The next IDA meeting will be May 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

ADA

The May ADA meeting did not have a quorum. The next meeting date will be announced at a future Council meeting.

The next Housing Authority meeting will be May 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Hillside Terrace.

Housing
Authority

The Recreation Update was given and included the following:

- The 2014 Summer Schedule is complete and available.
- Youth Center holiday hours were detailed.
- The 21st Delaware River Run had over 400 participants. Participants were congratulated, and volunteers were thanked for their support and assistance.

Recreation
Commission

The next Recreation Commission meeting will be May 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Youth Center.

The City-Wide Yard Sale on May 3, 2014 was a success. The next event, the Fall Foliage Festival, is being planned.

Tourism Board

The next Tourism Board will be May 13, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

The next ZBA meeting will be June 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of
Appeals and
Planning Board

The Planning Board's next meeting will be May 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

The next Plumbing and Electrical Boards will be held June 4, 2014 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Plumbing and
Electrical Boards

There are no major issues to report. Mr. Siegel asked the Council to consider having a bus service with dedicated stops.

Senior Advisory

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mr. Bell, to authorize Kathy Shortell and two (2) staff members to attend the Sysco Food Show in Saratoga Springs, New York on May 20, 2104 and permit them to use a City vehicle to travel to and from the show.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

The Orange County Senior Health and Fitness Day will be May 28, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Montgomery, New York. A variety of activities will be held. A County bus will provide free transportation for anyone wishing to attend; seating is limited.

No Access 23 TV report was given.

Access 23 TV

Mayor Decker complimented the cast and crew of *Aladdin, Jr.*

Mayor's
Correspondence
reviewed

The next Community Service Saturday will be May 17, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Canal Park.

Mayor Decker attended the Healthy Foods demonstration held recently at Sav-A-Lot.

Mayor Decker will be attending Assembly of God Church on Route 6 at 10:00 a.m. on May 17, 2014. Anyone wishing to attend was invited to join him.

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Waligroski, to authorize the expenditure of \$140 for Mayor Decker and CDA Director Valerie Maginsky to attend and represent the City at the Chamber of Commerce's spring banquet on May 17, 2014.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to authorize the support for the enactment of the Abandon Property Neighborhood Relief Act of 2014.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Residents were encouraged to attend the Council for the Arts' spring concert and the DARE street drug seminar.

A presentation will be held May 15, 2014 Drew Methodist Church entitled "Keeping Our Community Safe".

The City has received funds from the New York State Office of Community Renewal and Housing Trust Fund in the amount of \$400,000.

An Armed Forces Day ceremony will be held May 17, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. in Airport Park.

The Fire Department invited Council members to attend the annual appreciation night on June 2, 2014 at Neversink Engine #1's firehouse at 7:00 p.m.

The District Attorney will meet with City representatives to discuss the Community Prosecution Program.

Motion by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Bavoso, to approve the incorporation of the "Sexual Abuse/Molestation" section to the City's Employees' Handbook.

Department heads and Corporation Counsel have reviewed and approved the section.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Mayor Decker has been in discussion with the CSEA union concerning the Employees' Handbook and will give the information to Corporation Counsel so that any remaining issues can be resolved.

City Clerk-
Treasurer's
report given

Mrs. Waizenegger informed the Council that the New York State annual financial report was filed last week.

Old Business
discussed

Mr. Siegel spoke about the quality of life issues that increase with the warmer weather and encouraged everyone to contact the Police Department if necessary.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to authorize the Fire Department's annual coin toss at various locations in the City over the Memorial Day, Labor Day, and July 4th holiday weekends.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Ritchie, to schedule the next Common Council meeting for May 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. due to the Memorial Day holiday.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Everyone was invited to attend the Memorial Day Parade beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Middle School.

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Bell, to set a public hearing for 2013 New York State Community Development Block Grant on May 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon after any previous public hearing(s).

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Bell, to set a public hearing for 2014 New York State Community Development Block Grant in regards to the consolidated funding application on May 27, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon after any previous public hearing(s).

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Executive
Session set

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Bavoso, to set Executive Session to discuss Bus Department, Recreation Department, DPW, and Police Department personnel and Insurance and City contractual matters.

An invitation was extended to Mr. Farr and Mr. Faggione.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Mr. Siegel reminded residents to remove posted yard sale signs after the sale is over.

New Business
(continued)

Mr. Siegel spoke about the problems of dumping around clothing donation bins.

Fourth Ward cardboard pick-up will be May 23, 2014.

Mr. Waligroski recommended the Code Committee research and discuss the clothing bin companies that have donation boxes here in the City.

The Fourth Ward Neighborhood Watch meeting will be May 21, 2014.

The telephone company will begin removing and replacing wood telephone poles in the City.

Mr. John Fernandez, of RC World, updated the Council on his events and requested the City modify the fee schedule to accommodate the number of participants in his events and permit him to pay the fee after each event is held.

Public
Comment given

Mr. Adam Scopino, Jr. spoke about his concerns of the brown water due to fire hydrant flushing. Mr. Waligroski briefly explained the flushing process and requirements and assured Mr. Scopino that at no time would the City supply residents with contaminated water. He also noted that an annual report is mailed to residents detailing the City's water.

Mrs. Anne Horsham encouraged everyone to attend the Relatives as Parents program being held at Empowering Port Jervis on May 14, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Cecil Reed spoke about the Community Housing Innovation Program that provides transitional housing and the problems he is having with being evicted. He asked Mayor Decker to look into the program.

Council entered Executive Session at 8:36 p.m.

Council Enters
Executive
Session

The meeting was reconvened at 9:56 p.m.

Meeting
reconvened

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Waligroski, to renew the City's insurance with Travelers' Insurance.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Bavoso, to appoint Mick Cordisco and Alex Cordisco as Senior Recreation Leader and Rhiannon Hasenauer as Recreation Leader.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Bell, to accept the resignation of Dial-A-Bus driver Marie Menzynski to be effective immediately.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Ritchie, to hire Nancy Edwards as a Dial-A-Bus driver, subject to drug and alcohol testing.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Oney, to authorize a \$200 stipend per week for Mr. Steven Duryea for his provisional position of Assistant Director of Public Works for the period of one (1) year or until a permanent appointment is made to the position.

The stipend will not be retroactive to his provisional appointment.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

May 13, 2014

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Siegel, to refuse the offer for 33 Seward Avenue and remove the property from the market.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Meeting adjourned Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Bavoso, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

**Robin Waizenegger
City Clerk-Treasurer**