

November 9th, 2015

Regular Meeting-

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 November 9th, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance-

Mayor Kelly Decker and all members of the Common Council were present. Director of Public Works John Farr, Building Official Dave Rivera, Fire Chief Jeffery Rhoades, CDA Director Valerie Maginsky, Recreation Director John Faggione, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, City Clerk-Treasurer Robin Waizenegger, and Special City Counsel Michael Fox and Corporation Counsel William Bavoso were also present.

Pledge of Allegiance-

Mayor Decker & Caleb Perkowski from Boy Scout Troop 68 led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Youth Report given by Mr. Michael Conklin-

Winter sports are starting throughout the district and report cards went home with the students this past week. Parents are urged to visit the PJMS website under the parent resource page and link into the academic support information site where parents can find great opportunities aimed at helping your child succeed. Parent Teacher Conferences are on Tuesday November 24th at the Elementary and Middle Schools, parents are invited to make appointments. There was a district wide College week November 2nd-6th that was a huge success. The next Board of Education meeting will be on November 17th at 7:00pm at the High School Cafeteria.

Senior Report-

There was no report to be given today.

Veterans Report-

There was no report to be given today.

Presentations: Deerpark Senior Council

Flo Santini, Regina and Tippy all are representing the Deerpark Senior Council, thanked Kathy Shortell and all the many volunteers for feeding Thanksgiving dinner for over 210 seniors. Mayor Decker also thanked the women for all their hard work in making this dinner happen.

Public Comment-

Lorraine Marquez, 3rd ward, announced that Karl Brabenec will be attending the next neighborhood watch meeting, November 18th at 7:00pm.

November 9th, 2015

Tri-State Chamber of Commerce, Charlene Trotter, Thanked the City for a wonderful 20th annual race and presented a letter to the council requesting next year's event date. Mrs. Trotter also passed out instructions on how to get involved with the Scenic Wild Delaware River Geo-Tourism Project and explained how beneficial this project could be for surrounding businesses.

Eric Stein, spoke about a potential proposal regarding artwork downtown.
Mayor Decker advised Mr. Stein that this proposal will be discussed during Executive Session.

Minutes Approved-

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, Seconded by Mr. Bavoso to approve the minutes of the October 26th, 2015 regular meeting.

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

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee-

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to pay the current bills for General Fund, Water Fund, and Capital Account for a total of \$683,129.39.

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

The next meeting will be held on November 19th, at 7pm in the council chambers.

Fire & Emergency Management (FEM) Committee-

Mr. Waligroski reported that the Fire Department responded to 39 calls in the month of October.

Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Belcher to remove Patrick Gregory from active membership for non-participation effective this date.

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

Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to approve Howard Wheat Engine Company #4 adult Christmas party event on December 12th, 2015.

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

The next meeting has not been scheduled at this time.

Code Committee-

Last meeting was November 4th, 2015.

Discussed 6 new codes and will be discussing 4 more at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be December 2nd, 2015 at 7:00pm.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to approve August, September & October Code committee minutes.

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

November 9th, 2015**Department of Public Works (DPW) Committee-**

Mr. Cunningham stated that the committee discussed new solutions for replacing the antique light bulbs, the increasing costs of the water clarifier and interviewed perspective engineers for the CDBG grant.

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Siegel to approve the November 5th DPW meeting minutes.

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

UPDATE:

Garbage pickup will be 1day behind schedule for the 3rd & 4th wards due to Veterans Day.

Bagged leaves will be picked up City wide starting November 2nd.

The City compost and brush pile will be open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month.

Fall Hydrant flushing has begun, please be patient during this time. If water is discolored, run cold water till water runs clear.

The next meeting has not been scheduled at this time.

Police Committee-

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to approve the September & October police committee minutes.

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

The Port Jervis Police Department will be participating in the "No Shave November" in honor of all cancer survivors and a tribute to all who lost their life to cancer especially LouAnn McCarthy.

The next meeting will be November 12th at 6:30pm.

Liaison Reports:**Community Development Agency (CDA)-**

Last meeting was October 28th.

Mr. Hendrick reported that Ms. Maginsky is working on the 2016 budget.

The next meeting will be November 18th at 7:00pm

Industrial Development Agency (IDA)-

Nothing to report at this time.

Next Meeting November 10th at 6pm.

American's with Disabilities Act (ADA)-

Last meeting was October 1st, 2015

November 9th, 2015

Next meeting to be held February 4th at 6:00pm in the council chambers.

Housing Authority-

Last meeting was held on October 27th.

No report to be given.

The next meeting will be November 24th, at 7:00pm at Hillside Terrace in the conference room.

Recreation Commission:

Updates:

November 13th the band CBX will be performing at our Friday night "Teen Night" from 7:00pm-9:00pm. The Youth Center schedule for Veteran's Day will be 11:00am-3:00pm and for Thanksgiving break the schedule will be 11:00am-6:00pm November 23rd and 24th and 11:00am-3:00pm November 25th.

Youth basketball registration for the 2015-2016 season will be held at the Youth Center on Saturday December 5th from 9:00am-12:00pm, Sunday December 6th from 12:00-3:00pm and Wednesday December 9th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Youth basketball is for boys and girls in grades 3-6.

Busy Body arts and crafts classes are held every Saturday morning at the youth center from 9-10:30am. These classes are free of charge and are for boys and girls in grades K-3. Classes will run through December 12.

Fall cleanup day will be Saturday November 14th, 2015. We will be cleaning up leaves and branches from City parks and playgrounds. Volunteers are needed and will be meeting at the Farnum Park at 10:00am on November 14th.

For any questions on programs or events contact the Recreation Office at (845) 858-4045 or email us at pjrec@frontier.net.

The next meeting will be Wednesday November 18th, at 7:00 at the Youth Center.

Tourism Board-

Mr. Belcher stated that the tourism board is working on the Christkindlemarkt event.

The next meeting will be on November 10th, at 6:30pm in the down stairs conference room.

Zoning Board of Appeals-

No report to be given.

The next meeting will be held on December 1st, at 7pm in the Council Chambers.

Planning Board-

No report to be given.

The next meeting will be held on November 17th at 7:00pm.

Plumbing Board-

November 9th, 2015

No report to be given.

The next meeting will be held on December 7th at 7:00pm.

Electrical Board-

No report to be given.

The next meeting will be held December 7th at 6:45pm.

Senior Advisory-

Advised everyone that there are vacancies at Water Edge. Mr. Siegel thanked the Senior Board for the turkey dinner they provided to local seniors.

Access 23 TV-

No report to be given.

Mayor's Correspondence-

Motion by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to adjourn to approve the Tri-State Chambers of Commerce Annual 5k event on September 18th, 2016.

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

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Belcher to approve the Long Board Skateboard Event on June 11th & 12th, 2015.

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

Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to allow Candy Cane Pre-School to use the Rec Center on November 20th, 2015 for their annual turkey feast.

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

Mayor Decker spoke about the September 14th resolution which involves New York State Legislature creating boarder enterprise zones which will assist municipalities to promote competitive and vital economic growth. If approved this will cut sales tax, excise tax, and will eliminate tax on a variety of products such as paper products, medicine, clothing that are in these zones. 497,500 New Yorkers would see economic growth within the 132 small Cities, Towns & Villages that this resolution would impact.

Mr. Decker encouraged everyone to attend the budget finance workshops and thanked Robin Waizenegger, City Clerk Treasurer for helping him create the 2016 proposed budget.

Mayor explained after 8 years of 0% increases that the City lacks a healthy fund balance to stay within the 2% tax cap. He explained that to maintain services that citizens have grown to expect that a 14.7% increase in City taxes is necessary. This would equate to a \$12-\$20 per month increase for the average home in Port Jervis.

November 9th, 2015

Some services that the Mayor plans on bringing back are; dumping privileges, reopening West End Beach with instructor and an IT Tech.

City Clerk Treasurer's Report-

Mrs. Waizenegger advised citizens that the 2016 Mayor's proposed budget will be available to view on the City Website.
www.portjervisny.org

Announced the 2015 Tax Lien Sale will be November 17th and currently have 130 parcels for bid at this time.

Old Business:

Mr. Siegel-

Mr. Siegel extends his condolences to the entire Auerbach family on the loss of Chana Auerbach. Commended the Police, DPW, & Fire Departments for providing the City for a safe Halloween. Stated that the Paramount held a fitting tribute for Chris Farlekas, a night filled with great talent. Believes that Port Jervis has a golden opportunity with the idea of having a National Geographic Tour which would bring people into the City. Thanked everyone for attending the memorial for Mr. Kutcher and for voting.

Mr. Oney-

Asked how low the City's fund balance actually was?

Mrs. Waizenegger replied \$200,000.00 that is readily available.

Mr. Ritchie-

Praised the Chris Farlekas Tribute Concert thought it was a great event to honor such a great man that did so much for his community.

Mr. Hendrick- No old business

Mr. Bavoso-

Thanked DPW, Police, and the Community for a seamless Halloween night.

November 9th, 2015

Mr. Cunningham-

Sends his condolences to the Auerbach family for the loss of Chana Auerbach, a longtime teacher and resident of Port Jervis.

Mr. Belcher- No old business

Mr. Waligroski- No old business

Mr. Bell- No old business

New Business:

Mr. Bell-

Mr. Bell spoke about NYS Chapter 20 which would give citizens living outside NYC eligibility for tax relief. He wanted citizens to know, he will work hard to lower the proposed 2016 tax increase. Congratulated the current council on dealing with issues together for the past 4 years regardless of political affiliation.

Mr. Waligroski-

Wished all new council members good luck with the 2016 proposed budget.

Mr. Belcher- No new business

Mr. Cunningham-

Congratulated all the winners of the elections and advised them to work together regardless of political party. Invited everyone to attend the Veterans Day Parade.

Mr. Bavoso- No new business

Mr. Hendrick- No new business

Mr. Ritchie-

November 9th, 2015

Encourages new ideas from citizens and thinks the City needs to be more aggressive when it comes to attracting new businesses.

Mr. Oney-

Agrees with Mr. Siegel that a modest increase annually with the budget would be better.
Encouraged citizens to bring ideas to the forefront and be heard.

Mr. Siegel-

Hopes that Mike Cicalese will have a speedy recovery.
Encouraged citizens to attend budget workshops and thinks small increases in the budget would be better than a big jump at one time.
Hopes the counsel will look into a program that Freedom Hill, Maryland implemented that offered citizens the chance to purchase City owned properties for \$0 dollars, with certain requirements to encourage home owners to stay and increase the tax base.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mr. Oney to ban vendors from the Fireman's Day Parade.

AYE: 0 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 RESINDED

Mr. Waligroski doesn't agree with banning vendors.
Mr. Bavoso will back the Fire Dept. decision
Mayor Decker stated the City earns \$1,300.00 dollars for vendor permits.

Public Comment

Lorraine Marquez, 3rd ward, thinks we as a City should think about not replacing retiring employees, implement salary freezes and to ration out office supplies in an effort to reduce costs.

Mayor Decker advised everyone to read the newsletter because it has a comparison chart of what neighboring towns/cities are paying.

Executive Session set-

Motion by Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to allow Executive session to include DPW with regards to contractual and personnel, Police with regards to contractual, City contractual with regards to City purchases, Building Department, Fire Department and to seek the advice of counsel with regards to 24-32 Front Street with invitation to Mike Fox, DPW Director Jack Farr, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, Building Official David Rivera, Fire Chief Jeffery Rhoades and Mr. Blanton.

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

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to adjourn to executive session at 8:25pm.

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

Meeting Reconvened at 10:30pm

November 9th, 2015

Motion by Mr. Hendricks, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to authorize administrative leave for employee #305 effective immediately

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

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to adopt a workplace violence prevention program.

AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Hendrick to hire MHE consulting engineers for the purpose of designing, bidding, inspecting the Jersey Avenue sewer replacement project which is funded by the CDBG grant.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 1 (Waligroski) ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Waligroski, seconded by Mr. Bell to allow the Tri- State Fencing Club to use the Youth Center building 2 days a week, with proper insurance being provided prior to use.

AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Waligroski to approve the 3 year lease extension for the sculpture owned by Mr. Stein, with a request to repaint the sculpture.

AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Meeting Adjourned -

Motion by Mr. Cunningham seconded by Mr. Waligroski to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Robin Waizenegger
City Clerk Treasurer