

CODE COMMITTEE
City of Port Jervis
Common Council Chambers
Minutes - Wednesday, March 2, 2016 - 7:00pm

David Bavoso
Committee Chairman

David Rivera
Building Official

Kristin Trovei
Sarah Hendry
Stanley Siegel
Committee Members

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: David Bavoso - Stan Siegel - David Rivera – Kristin Trovei – Sarah Hendry - Kelly Decker – William Bavoso – Frank Bell

Public Comment:

Debbie Reya, owner of Uprfront, is against new residents being allowed to use black top for their sidewalks as she believes it gives the City an unappealing look.

King Johnson, 29-31 Front Street business owner, wanted to assure the committee that his intentions are to repair his building and contribute to the revitalization of Port Jervis.

Joe Thomas- brought literature for all committee members to read that describes the Trap Neuter & Release Program.

Building Officials Report:

Building Department Monthly Report

16	Building Permits	28
0	Demolition Permits	0
13	Certificates of Compliance/Occupancy	19
17	Searches	34
1	Social Service Inspections	2
0	Social Service Re-Inspections	0
2	Planning Board Applications	2
1	Zoning Board Applications	1
0	Plumbing Licenses Issued	0
0	Electrical License Applications	0
0	Electrical Licenses Issued	0
0	One Time Electrical Licenses Issued	0
0	Pool Permits	0
3	Sign Permits	3
0	Public Assemblies	0
3	Multiple Dwellings	5
14	Building Construction Inspections	43
30	Violation Notices	187
34	Other Inspections	287
38	Appearance Tickets	65

23 Vacant Building Registration 43
Total amount collected: \$62,875.00 (month of February 2016)
\$98,932.00 (year to date for 2016)

UPDATES ON FOLLOWING LOCATIONS REPORTED LAST MONTH

- a) **29-31 Front Street (King Johnson):** City Engineer is working with customers Engineer in hopes of getting work started and completed quickly.
- b) **42 Front Street (Foundry 42):** moving along nicely, people are in the building working every day.
- c) **46 -48 Front Street:** In contact with individuals involved to ensure meetings go as seamlessly as possible.
- d) **90 Front Street:** No movement, a court date is planned for March 25, 2016.
- e) **92 Front Street:** No contact, no movement
- f) **19 Hamilton (Laundromat):** there are currently issues with the Fire Inspector, once those issues are in compliance they will continue to move along.
- g) **100 Pike Street (Port Plaza):** Mayor Decker announced that Mr. Paladino will be at the April 11th council meeting with a progress update.
- h) **Future Homes:** have done a tremendous amount of cleanup but will continue to follow up to ensure compliance.

Mr. Siegel- asked the status on 30 King Street.

Mr. Rivera- replied that there was nothing new to report at this time.

Mr. Siegel- asked if the orange wrapping along the Flo-Jean property could be removed.

Mr. Rivera- answered yes, absolutely.

Mr. Bell- Thanked Mr. Rivera for the work he has done to clean up the Future Homes property.

Old Business:

1. Proposed Sewer Fee Revision to non-homestead properties.

Debbie Reya- asked for clarification on which properties the revision would affect.

Mr. Bavoso- replied all non-homesteads, including small commercial properties, paying a minimum of \$108.00 per quarter opposed to the \$54.00 which is in place now.

Mayor Decker- read a letter from Mrs. Reya explaining her opposition to revision, and states that the small businesses cannot sustain another fee on top of what they are already paying. Mr. Decker also explained the construction process and cost of repair that needs to be done with the entire sewer system throughout the City.

Mrs. Hendry & Mrs. Trovei are in agreement that if the fee must be raised it should be equally distributed for all residents not just one particular sector.

Mr. Bell- suggests that the committee look into imposing fines for commercial buildings that do not have a meter installed.

Mr. Siegel- suggested starting the fee in January 2017 would be ideal, so large residential buildings such as Minisink Apt/Hillside Terrace can build the additional cost into their annual budget.

The Sewer Fee Revision proposal will go back to subcommittee for further discussion.

2. To create a volunteer Architectural Review Board.

Mr. Siegel- suggested that the committee might want to consider changing the name.

Mayor Decker and Mrs. Hendry- stated that the board should give property owners recommendations rather than requirements.

3. Local Law to prohibit residents from using black top for sidewalks and the paving front yards

Mr. Bavoso, Mr. Siegel & Mrs. Trovei-suggested the law be rewritten to only address the paving of the front yards as the council agreed using blacktop for sidewalks is acceptable.

Mayor Decker and Mr. Rivera- explained the idea behind this law is to preserve the green space in front of residential properties and suggest that the law include a percentage of the yard that must remain green space.

Law will be revised and brought back to the Code Committee for review.

4. Create a Transfer Tax and Community Preservation Fund for Port Jervis. This would be a Tax Paid by the Purchaser of the property and the money would go into a Fund in which would only be used for Community Preservation.

Mr. Bavoso- explained that the council didn't agree with the amount of, \$4.00 per \$1,000.00 of the purchase price, and suggested revising the amount to \$2.00 per \$1,000.00 and reintroducing it to the council at the next meeting.

5. Proposed Local Law to allow the Building Inspector to shut off water if C/O is revoked.

Mr. Bavoso explained that the council had concerns with the language in the proposed law and asked Mr. Rivera for clarification of what language should be included.

Corporation Counsel, Mr. Bavoso, and Mr. Rivera gave examples of why this law is important and how it assists in protecting citizens from inhabitable living conditions.

Law will be revised and brought back to the Code Committee for review.

New Business:

1. Proposed changes to the Taxi Law.

Mr. Bavoso- explained that the major change will remove City Clerk Treasurer as the administrator and make the Police Department the administrator moving forward, removing language that prohibits drivers with misdemeanors and minor changes to the inspection process of the vehicles.

Motion by Mrs. Trovei, seconded by Mrs. Hendry to bring the Taxi Law to the council.

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

2. The Event Fee Law.

Mr. Bavoso- explained that the law would impose a \$5.00 fee for any City event with a paying participant and/or vendor to help offset the cost of Police and DPW personnel.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mrs. Hendry to bring the Event Fee Law to the council.

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

3. Proposed changes to the Animal Law.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mrs. Hendry to bring the Animal Law to the council.

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

4. Reduction in City Speed Limit.

Mr. Bavoso- explained that the Police Chief suggested changing the City speed limit to 25mph.

Mrs. Trovei- asked how much it would cost to change signage throughout the City.

Mayor Decker- responded that only 7 signs entering the City would have to be changed.

Mrs. Hendry- asked if reducing the speed limit would be safer for residents and suggested no parking on one side of the street to help address safety concerns.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mrs. Trovei to bring the City Speed Limit Reduction proposal to the council.

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

5. Eliminating Double Utility Poles.

Mr. Siegel- described that the City has 57 double poles, which is when a new utility pole gets installed next to an existing pole. He thinks this issue needs to be addressed.

Mr. Bavoso-suggested a proposal be drafted and discussed at the next meeting.

6. Social Services/Section 8 Inspections.

Mr. Rivera- explained that not all Section 8 Inspections are done with licensed professionals. He suggests crafting a law to allow only licensed inspectors to perform social service and section 8 inspections within the City.

Mrs. Hendry & Corporation Counsel- suggested meeting with all parties involved to get clarification on protocol and procedures on these types of inspections.

7. Table Cafés

Mayor Decker- wants the committee to look into adopting a law to allow business owners to set up table cafes, on the sidewalk, to allow residents to eat outside.

Mr. Rivera- explains that the sidewalk width throughout the City just isn't wide enough, doesn't see this idea being feasible.

Public Comment: *About Topics Covered in Tonight's Meeting*

Laura Meyer, Owner of Flora Laura, doesn't agree with implementing another fee for commercial businesses.

Judy Opelt, 4th ward, asked the committee what the revisions were to the Animal Law.

Mr. Bavoso-responded that the changes mostly address the section on dangerous dogs.

Motion by Mr. Siegel, seconded by Mrs. Trovei to adjourn at 9:10pm

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Next Scheduled Code Meeting: **April 6th, 2016 @ 7:00 pm - Council Chambers**