

March 28th, 2016**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 March 28th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance-

Mayor Kelly Decker and all members of the Common Council were present except Mr. Bell. Fire Chief Frank Fuller III, Recreation Director John Fagg, Police Chief William Worden, DPW Director John Farr, CDA Director Valerie Maginsky, Building Official David Rivera, City Clerk-Treasurer Robin Waizenegger, Mike Fox and Corporation Counsel William Bavoso were also present.

Pledge of Allegiance-

Mayor Decker and members from Boy Scout Troop 68 led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Youth Report given by Mr. Matthew Conklin-

The Port Jervis Recreation's Easter egg hunt was a huge success. Thanked all involved.
There will be a circus this Friday, April 1st. Visit the website for more information and how to get free tickets.
Spring sports have started at the High School and are going well.
New York State testing starts soon at the Middle School. Visit the website for the modified schedule.
There are still a few more chances to register your child for kindergarten next year. This Thursday, March 31st and Wednesday April 13th are the next dates for registration, both at ASK.

Senior Report- No report

Veterans Report- No report

Public Hearing-**Local Law #6 Community Preservation Fee**

Wayne Kidney, 1st ward, opposed to any tax where real estate is involved and encourages council to reconsider the proposed law.

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, Seconded by Mr. Belcher to close the public hearing on Local Law #6

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Local Law #7 Amend Dog Control

No public comment

Motion by Mr. Siegel, Seconded by Mr. Bavoso to close the public hearing on Local Law #7

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

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Local Law #8 Residency of Appointed Officials

Pete Tomasi, 2nd ward, is opposed to hiring the highest paid positions to individuals who live outside of the community.

Wayne Kidney, 1st ward, believes you must hire the best qualified individual for the position and is in favor of this proposed law.

Judy Opelt, 4th ward, believes the candidate in question will be loyal regardless of where she resides.

Mr. Siegel- stated in certain circumstances you need to go outside the City limits to hire the best qualified candidate.

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, Seconded by Mr. Belcher to close the public hearing on Local Law #8

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Local Law #9 Notice of Loss of Use

Motion by Mr. Siegel, Seconded by Mr. Bavoso to close the public hearing on Local Law #9

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Public Comment-

Mrs. Tomasi, 2nd ward, has concerns with the implementation of the upcoming Pioneer Race and encouraged citizens to check out the trails.

Teresa Spradling, Assessor Clerk, - stated that she has Tri-State pride and asked the council to consider her for the Assessor position.

Peter Grech- defended payment of wages to council and thinks residents need to come to the meetings to give more suggestions rather than complain. He also stated that he appreciates the council and the residents.

Minutes Approved-

Motion by Mr. Ritchie, Seconded by Mr. Bavoso to approve the minutes of the March 14th, 2016 regular meeting.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 1(Foster) CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- David Bavoso

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to pay the current bills for General Fund, Water Fund, and Capital Account for a total of \$304,118.81.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mrs. Hendry to approve the resolution for the 2016 Capital Note.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to approve the minutes of the March 16th finance meeting.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

The next meeting will be held on April 20th, at 6:45pm in the council chambers.

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Fire & Emergency Management (FEM) Committee-

Announced the annual fireman's day parade will be July 9th, 2016.

The next meeting will be held on April 18th 2016 at 7:00pm in the council chambers.

Code Committee-

Motion by Mr. Bavoso to adopt Local Law #6 relating to a Community Preservation Fee.

NO SECOND/MOTION FAILED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Belcher to adopt now Local Law #6 relating to Amending Dog Control.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Belcher to adopt now Local Law #7 relating to Residency of Appointed Officials.

AYE: 6 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 2(Mr. Foster, Mr. Trovei) ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Belcher to adopt now Local Law #8 relating to Notice of Loss of Use.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Next meeting to be held April 6th at 7:00pm in the council chambers.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Committee-

UPDATE:

Garbage pickup will be on its normal schedule for the next two weeks.

Every Saturday from 7:15am-11:30am the dump will be open for residents to use. Dump passes can be purchased at the City Clerk's Office for \$10.00 per pass.

Reminded everyone that hydrant flushing will begin soon and citizens will be alerted via nixle alerts.

Encouraged residents to sign up for Nixle.

Next meeting will be held April 4th, 2016 at 6:00pm

Police Committee-

The next meeting will be March 29th at 7:00pm.

Liaison Reports:

Community Development Agency (CDA)-

Discussed new hires, reports and program updates

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The next meeting will be April 22nd at 7:00pm.

Industrial Development Agency (IDA)-

Has requested Ellicott Development Inc. to give a presentation on 100 Pike Street in April.

Next Meeting April 20th at 6pm.

American's with Disabilities Act (ADA)-

Last meeting was February 4th, 2015

Next meeting to be held May 2nd at 6:00pm in the council chambers.

Housing Authority-

The next meeting will be April 26th, at 7:00pm at Hillside Terrace in the conference room.

Recreation Commission:

Updates:

The Recreation Department held two special events over Spring Break last week. The 1st was our 1st Annual Snowball's Chance Fat Bike Race on the newly developed trails in the Watershed property. 30 bikers hit the 12 mile course at 11:00 am on Saturday March 19. Expert riders did two laps- 24 miles while beginners completed only the one 12 mile loop. The event was a huge success and we anticipate that next year's races will more than double in size. Special thanks to The DPW and Police Departments for their help. The PJ Volunteer Ambulance Corp. The Recreation Commission and Dick and Darryl McKeebie from the Erie Restaurant for hosting the registration! The Hiking and Biking Trails are now open! Maps of the trails are available at the Recreation Office and can also be emailed to you. They can also be found on our Facebook page and soon on the City Webpage. Trail Head signs and markers will be going up in the near future. Remember- NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES ALLOWED. Also Pack In and Pack Out- Leave only Tire Treads and Footprints. The 2nd Special Event was our Annual Easter Candy Dash at Church St. Park. This event was held this past Saturday March 26. Approximately 120 kids "dashed" for candy and prizes on a beautiful afternoon. All that attended had a great time. Photos of the event can be found on our Facebook page- Port Jervis Recreation. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped make the day special for the kids!

On April 13, 2016 at 7pm at the Youth Center on Pike St. there will be a brain storming session to discuss the formation of an Outdoor Club. The goal of the meeting is for the public to help create a mission Statement for such a club, to seek input from the public generally and find interested people in participating in volunteering at the trails in the Watershed Property.. The meeting will be led by attorney Jimmy Hendry

On Saturday April 9, 2016 the Recreation Department is holding its Spring Port Pride Clean-Up Day. Volunteers are needed for this special event. Volunteers are being asked to contact the Recreation Office at 845-858-4045 before the 9th if they are able to help. We will all meet at Farnum Park at 10 am. If you have a rake you are more than welcome to bring it. Thank you.

Mark your calendars for the 23rd Annual Delaware River 5K Run on Sunday May 1, 2016. Applications are available at the Recreation office or you can register on-line at www.delawareriver5krun.com. Don't miss out on this great community event!

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 April 20th, 2016 at 7:00 at the Youth Center.

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Tourism Board-

Discussed City Wide Yard- applications are available on the website and April 1st is the deadline to register. The next meeting will be on April 12th at 6:30 pm in the council chambers.

Zoning Board of Appeals-

Encouraged residents to attend
The next meeting will be held on April 5th, at 7pm in the Council Chambers.

Planning Board-

The next meeting will be held on April 19th at 7:00pm.

Plumbing Board-

The next meeting will be held on April 6th at 6:30pm.

Electrical Board-

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

Senior Advisory-

No report given

Access 23 TV-

Invited council and residents to their spring karaoke telethon May 14th and to check out their new website Access23.com.

Mayor's Correspondence-

Motion by Mr. Belcher, seconded by Mr. Siegel to accept with regret the resignation of Elizabeth Wilson from the Nutrition Department.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Read a letter congratulating Port Jervis for being a member of the Let's Move community.

Discussed how 2017 healthcare rates will increase by at least 7.8%

Informed the Council that the Moody's Investment rating results came back, downgrading the City from an A1 rating to an A3. Mayor Decker described the details of the report and informed the public what needs to happen to get the City back on track. He believes to create revenue; we must invest in Port Jervis.

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City Clerk Treasurer's Report-

Informed council the Erie Restaurant is renewing their liquor license.

Reminded residents that an absentee ballot for the primary elections must be obtained no later than Tuesday April 12th, 2016 and voting will take place on April 19th, 2016.

Old Business:

Mr. Siegel-

Motion by Mr. Siegel to approve a City sponsored event to clean up the City on Earth Day.

NO SECOND/MOTION FAILED

Corporation Counsel- urges council not to vote until risks of liability are discussed.

Mrs. Hendry-suggests that we encourage residents to clean up on Earth Day opposed to sponsoring an event.

Mr. Siegel stated he is glad the council is thinking of a plan for vacant buildings throughout the City.

Mrs. Trovei- No old business

Mr. Ritchie-

Thanked residents who participated in the bike race.

Motion by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to approve the resolution designating the City of Port Jervis as the lead agency under SEQRA for the DEC/EFC Wastewater Engineering Planning Grant.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Mr. Foster- No old business

Mr. Bavoso- No old business

Mrs. Hendry-

Congratulated the Recreation Department on the bike race and urges everyone to visit the new trails.

Mr. Belcher-

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Informed everyone that he has City wide yard sale application and thinks NYS is killing municipalities with increasing mandated fees.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick- No old business

Mr. Bell- Absent

New Business:

Mr. Bell- Absent

Mrs. Fitzpatrick-

Praised the bike race and is thinking about participating next year.

Mr. Belcher-

New electric rates will be implemented April 1st, 2016.

Mrs. Hendry- No new business

Mr. Bavoso- No new business

Mr. Foster-

Executive Session set-

Motion by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to allow Executive session for pending litigation regarding KME, personnel matter within the building department regarding the employment/discipline of a particular employee, personnel matter regarding compensation/financial issue of a city officer, personnel matter with the Assessor's office and Clerk's office, contractual matter regarding City's union contracts, pending litigation regarding Bank of America and Mcliens with invitation to include Fire Chief, Tom Vicchiariello, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Spradling, Mrs. Waizenegger and to seek advice of council regarding matters involving attorney/client privilege.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

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Mr. Ritchie- No new business

Mrs. Trovei- No new business

Mr. Siegel-

Applauded the Recreation Department on their annual Easter egg hunt and suggests the City make an effort to clean the area surrounding the turntable.

Public Comment

Tom Vicchiarriello, Emergency Management, asked council members to keep the Planning Board updated on what goes on at other committee meetings.

Wayne Kidney, 1st ward, thanked the council for opposing the proposed community preservation fund.

Motion by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mrs. Trovei to enter into executive session at 8:40pm.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Meeting Reconvened at 10:41pm

Motion by Mr. Belcher, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to allow the Mayor to execute the document received from the City Appraiser relating to the reconstruction of Route 6 and Main Street project and accepts the property acquisition fair values set forth from the Appraiser date March 14th, 2016.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to approve the transfer of Heather Tigue from the City Clerk's Office to the Assessor's Office reserving 8hrs on Tuesdays and 4hrs on Wednesdays as needed in the Clerks office for up to 30 days effective April 4th, 2016.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Belcher to approve the amendment salary of the Assessor position from \$56,880.00 to \$58,000.00 per year plus longevity.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Motion by Mr. Bavoso, seconded by Mr. Ritchie to approve a cell phone stipend for the City Clerk Treasurer for \$40.00 per month.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Meeting Adjourned –

Motion by Mrs. Hendry, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

AYE: 8 ABSENT: 1 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Robin Waizenegger
City Clerk Treasurer