

CODE COMMITTEE
City of Port Jervis
Common Council Chambers
Minutes – Tuesday, June 12th, 2018 – 7:00pm

Lisa Randazzo
Committee Chairman

David Rivera
Building Official

Kristin Trovei
David Bavoso
Stanley Siegel
Committee Members

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Mrs. Randazzo – Mrs. Trovei – Mr. Siegel – Mr. Belcher – Mr. Bavoso – Mayor Decker

Absent: David Rivera

Public Comment:

Wayne Kidney, 1st ward, reviewed code relating to vacant property fees, stated that his tax lien property is not being monitored and doesn't feel he should be charged considering the property is currently in the tax lien process. Mr. Kidney also described the law as being municipal extortion and illegal.

Ed Degroat, 3rd ward, agreed with Mr. Kidneys comments and noted he also paid a vacant property fee for a property in tax lien sale in which he was the lien holder.

Mr. Siegel explained intent of the vacant property law and stated the law needs to be eliminated or fixed to accomplish the original intent of the law.

Committee discussed the possibility of amending the current law and how it relates to properties in tax lien sale and discussed the risk involved with being a lienholder for a property in tax lien sale.

Mrs. Waizenegger, City Clerk, provided the committee with general information on how the tax lien process is administered.

Mayor Decker noted Mr. Kidney is no different than other lien holders or property owners being charged a vacant building fee. He also noted that there is an immense amount of properties that currently have the 421-F exemptions.

Mrs. Randazzo stated she will request a full list of properties currently being charged vacant property fees and will leave the topic open for further discussion.

Motion by Mrs. Trovei, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to approve the May 2nd, 2018 code committee meeting minutes.

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

Building Officials Report: - Attached to these Minutes

Old Business:

1. Vacant Building Fees- See above.
2. Fountains – Committee discussed creating a law and signage to deter individuals from entering city fountains. Mr. Bavoso will ask corporation counsel if a resolution is needed. Mr. Siegel inquired about holding parents responsible for their children entering city fountains. Mayor Decker noted the committee would have to discuss the matter with corporation counsel.
3. Fireworks – Mrs. Randazzo confirmed that the city currently has a firework law in place. Mr. Bavoso noted he will forward current firework law to Chief Worden for enforcement.
4. Air B&B's – Mrs. Trovei doesn't think topic needs to be addressed at this time. Mrs. Randazzo stated the committee will revisit topic if needed in the future.
5. Kitchenettes – Mrs. Randazzo suggested tabling topic until next meeting.

New Business:

1. Parking Scofflaws – Mrs. Randazzo is awaiting comments from the Police Chief in reference to scofflaws and the parking ticket amnesty program. Mrs. Waizenegger informed committee of Police Chiefs plan regarding the proposed scofflaw law. Committee agreed to wait for further comments from Chief and corporation counsel and continue discussion at the next meeting.
2. Mayor Decker asked the committee to consider creating fees suggested by the Fire Inspector and the Fire Chief. He stated he would email suggested fees to committee members for discussion at the next meeting.

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

Wayne Kidney, 1st ward, inquired about why it is required to pay city taxes in full when a property is in the tax lien process.

Mrs. Waizenegger, City Clerk, explained that the current policy assists with redemptions and interest income but assured him she would research the law and confer with corporation counsel.

Motion by Mrs. Trovei, seconded by Mr. Bavoso to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm.

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

Next Scheduled Code Meeting: **July 5th, 2018 @ 7:00 pm - Council Chambers**