

August 12, 2019

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 August 12th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance-

All members of the Common Council were present. Also present were Corporation Counsel William Bavoso, City Clerk Treasurer Robin Waizenegger and Deputy City Clerk Treasurer Bobbie Jo Muller.

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Mayor Kelly Decker.

Pledge of Allegiance-

Mayor Decker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Youth Report- No Report

Senior and Veterans Report- Mr. Siegel reported that the top scams targeted at Seniors are as follows:

1. Medicare
2. Counterfeit Prescriptions
3. Funeral and Cemetery
4. Anti-Aging
5. Telemarketing – Phone Scams

He advised seniors to hang up or not answer telephone solicitations and to report scams to the authorities as soon as possible.

Mr. Siegel reported that there has been updates to the VA Blue Button health record online system to provide better sharing of records and testing results with non-VA health practitioners. He encouraged veterans to sign up for this program at VA.GOV and to complete the release of data form with the VA.

Public Hearings:

Comprehensive Code

Motion by David Bavoso seconded by George Belcher to open the public hearing on the Comprehensive Code Plan.

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

Mr. Robert Murphy from Barton & Loguidice presented an overview of the Comprehensive Plan development which took 2 years with 4 public workshops and numerous committee meetings combined with information gathering.

It is a plan which communicates a vision or guiding principles for the City of Port Jervis aimed for development through 2040 with 4 major goals.

- 1.) Downtown Revitalization
- 2.) Connections to the waterfront
- 3.) Stabilizing Neighborhoods
- 4.) Resilient and efficient infrastructure

It was noted that the plan does encompass some of the principals of the previous plans from the 2003 Downtown Revitalization Plan and the 2009 Waterfront revitalization plan.

A member of the public asked where to find a copy. It was noted that the draft is accessible on the City website.

A member of the public inquired if the economy was considered during the planning process. He indicated that the economic problems of competing with neighboring states and the need to have growth to support the stabilization of neighborhoods with jobs to support improved housing and infrastructure were discussed. The member of the public asked if there were specifics about attracting new jobs and commercial growth. Mr. Murphy stated that of course that is an underlying principal to create jobs in being able to make some of the changes in the plan.

Mr. Murphy also indicated the need to do a housing affordability study to dispel varying opinions of the current housing status in Port Jervis.

August 12, 2019

A member of the public asked if there was a backup plan. Mr. Murphy indicated that this process is more about goal setting and requires a process of constant review and updating versus a static pass or fail document.

David Bavoso indicated that NYS suggests a review every 5 years to accommodate any social or economic shifts that would affect the plans.

Stanley Siegel and the Mayor expressed thanks for all the hard work by Barton & Loguidice, CDA Director Valerie Maginsky and committee members from the Council.

Motion by David Bavoso seconded by George Belcher to close the public hearing on the Comprehensive Code Plan.

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

Local Laws

Motion by Lisa Randazzo seconded by David Bavoso to open the public hearing on proposed Local Law #6.

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

Ms. Randazzo gave an overview of the law to make available a low-cost loan program to promote energy improvements which focus on sustainable energy sources and energy efficiency. As part of the program the consent of the municipality is required.

A member of the public inquired if the loans were for residential properties. Ms. Randazzo indicated that they are not and that they are for commercial and or industrial entities through a third-party lender.

Motion by Regis Foster seconded by David Bavoso to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law #6.

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

Motion by Lisa Randazzo seconded by Dominick Santini to open the public hearing on proposed Local Law #7.

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

Ms. Randazzo explained that the purpose of the law is to establish rules and regulations for dog parks/yards. There was no public comment or further council discussion.

Motion by David Bavoso seconded by George Belcher to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law #7.

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

Motion by Lisa Randazzo seconded by to George Belcher open the public hearing on proposed Local Law #8.

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

Ms. Randazzo explained that this law is to eliminate the schedule of charges to allow City Marshalls to set their own fees. Mr. Grech questioned what rates City Marshalls will be able to charge. The Mayor indicated that this law will allow the marshals to set their own fees. Mr. Grech asked if this was unlimited. The Mayor indicated that the rates charged would be solely determined by the Marshalls themselves.

Motion by George Belcher seconded by David Bavoso to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law #8.

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

Motion by Lisa Randazzo seconded by George Belcher to open the public hearing on proposed Local Law #9.

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

Ms. Randazzo indicated that this is language charge setting the fee at the NYS law schedule for Notary services. There was no public comment or further council discussion.

Motion by George Belcher seconded by Regis Foster to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law #9.

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

A motion for executive session was made by Regis Foster, seconded by Gina Fitzpatrick for review personnel issues in the Recreation Department and DPW with invitation to those department supervisors and any other contractual matters as well as to seek advice of legal counsel.

August 12, 2019

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:22 pm

Meeting Reconvened at 7:47 pm

Minutes Approved-Motion by Maria Mann seconded by David Bavoso to approve the minutes of the July 22nd, 2019 regular meeting.

AYE: 7 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 2 (Siegel, Trovei) CARRIED

Motion by George Belcher seconded by Regis Foster to approve the minutes of the July 29th, 2019 special meeting.

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

For the Good of the City –

Howard Kuperman – He spoke on behalf of the Rotary Club of Port Jervis to request that the City designate an area in a city park for the Port Jervis Rotary to develop and fundraise for a Special needs park that will contain special playground equipment for children with disabilities and special needs. They want to coordinate their fund-raising kick-off with the 100th Anniversary Gala of the Port Jervis Rotary and consider time to be of the essence. They suggested the second tier of the Church Street park as their desired site.

Mayor Decker indicated that he is aware of problems with sink holes at that site and requested that the group attend the next Recreation Commission meeting to discuss potential sites with them and have the recreation commission bring forth a recommendation to the Council. He also indicated that any plans would have to coordinate with the current submitted plans for the DRI grant.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick personally invited the group to the next Recreation Commission meeting on August 20, 2019.

Mr. Siegel expressed his opinion that he thought that Church Street would be the best place if there is room.

Mr. Kuperman expressed his displeasure at not being able to get an answer immediately. Mrs. Randazzo asked if there was a concrete plan of what is going to be added to any park. She noted that while she thinks it is a great idea, she would like to see a more specific plan of action to be brought forth to the recreation commission. Mrs. Trovei also encouraged them to go through the recreation commission with a more formal plan.

Mr. Kuperman indicated that they will proceed through the recreation commission for this project that they expect will cost approximately \$350,000.

Michael Adams – He requested follow-up on the transfer of a small parcel at 42 Pike to him due to title recording issues. The matter was referred to the corporation counsel and city clerk.

Lisa Utter - She questioned what happened to all the complaints that Mr. Ed De Groat filed with the building inspector. She stated that his complaints were not returned with later FOIL requests. The Mayor offered to follow-up if a list of the complaints was provided.

Ed De Groat – complained about receiving excessive documents when he requested e-mail documents. The Clerk noted that the documents were the attachments to the email for the time period he requested.

He then argued the classification of 12-14 Jersey Avenue as a triangular park. He then questioned the employment status of the corporation counsel. He then stated that he believes there was conflicts in the sale of City property where David Bavoso represented a buyer. Mr. David Bavoso countered saying there was no such incidents and that Mr. DeGroat was lying. Mr. De Groat confirmed that he was called a liar and Mr. Bavoso confirmed it.

He then questioned the sale of 29-31 Front Street from King Johnson to Michelle Darne and the City's involvement. He accused the Mayor of making statements which the Mayor denied.

August 12, 2019

Linda Van Horn – Stated she was not here as a representative of the school district. She questioned who built the garbage enclosure downtown. The Mayor indicated that the City built them on City property. She commented that they are beautiful and questioned the cost. The Mayor indicated he did not know that information. She expressed her opinion that the businesses should be paying for them our maybe the City should supply enclosures for all businesses.

Toni Furman – inquired about the house at 36 Sullivan Avenue and it's historical significant. Mayor Decker indicated that the current owners are trying to clean up the house and that it does not have historical significance.

Peter Grech – He questioned the constitutionality of his rights for anonymity at public comment and commented on the termination of a member of the Committee on Open Government as not related to his work on freedom of information items.

Business:

Ms. Randazzo- She provided a recap of the last code meeting. A member of the public brought up driveway issues which the committee reviewed. The committee then discussed the small cell tower law, reducing the city speed limit, light industrial zoning and the building department monthly report.

The next code committee meeting will be on 9/4/19 at 6pm preceded by the plumbing and Electrical Board meetings at 5:30 and 5:45 respectively.

A motion was made by Lisa Randazzo and seconded by George Belcher to set a public hearing for Local Law #10 regarding small cell towers for August 26th at 7:01pm.

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

A motion was made by Lisa Randazzo and seconded by George Belcher to approve Local Law # 6 as proposed.

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

A motion was made by Lisa Randazzo and seconded by David Bavoso to approve Local Law # 7 as proposed. The Mayor reviewed some of the regulations as discussion items and noted that the dog park/yard currently under construction will not be open until sometime after the end of August. It is located on the old turntable property and is all fenced in.

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

A motion was made by Lisa Randazzo and seconded by George Belcher to approve Local Law # 8 as proposed.

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

A motion was made by Lisa Randazzo and seconded by George Belcher to approve Local Law # 9 as proposed.

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

Mrs. Fitzpatrick- Gave the Recreation update as follows:

1. Our full day Summer program will end this Friday August 16. Playgrounds and the Youth Center will close at 1 pm this Friday. Beginning next week on August 19th the Youth Center will be open 11 am- 3 pm weekdays. This schedule will run through August 30.
2. West End Beach will close for the season this Sunday August 18. Beach will close at 6 pm on the 18th. Please remember that there is NO swimming when the beach is closed.
3. This Wednesday August 14 our Summer program will be holding its annual Summer Field Day at Riverside Park. Field Day starts at 10 am. Lunch will be served at 12:30 pm. Plenty of games, competitions and food for all the kids. No sign up needed. FREE of charge.
4. This Thursday August 15 we will be holding our last Concert in the Park event at Riverside Park. DJ Howie will be playing 50s and 60s music at 7 pm. This event is FREE of Charge.

August 12, 2019

5. On Sunday, September 8 the Recreation Department will partner up with Shoprite and hold its 1st Annual Color Run at the A.S.K. campus. Race time is 9:00 am. Registration forms are available at the Youth Center, City Clerk's Office or by calling Shoprite at 973-293-8207. The "Patriotic Color Splash Run" will benefit Tower of Hope and Honor Flight. Don't miss out on this great morning.
6. The next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday August 20 at 6:00 pm at the Youth Center.

A motion was made by Gina Fitzpatrick, seconded by George Belcher to accept the resignation of LaAisa Brown as Youth Center Leader and the appointment of Megan Nason as a replacement who is a returning employee.

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

A motion was made by Gina Fitzpatrick, seconded by Lisa Randazzo to accept the resignation of Erika Ropke Polanis from the recreation commission with regrets.

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

Mr. Belcher-

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by Dominick Santini to hire Richard Garby as a part-time bus driver contingent on his passing of his physical and drug-screening.

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

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by David Bavoso to hire Peter Lane as a step one laborer per the CSEA schedule subject to a 6-month probation period from his start date of work.

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

Garbage pickup will be on the regular schedule for the next two weeks. Bulk waste is available from 7:15 to 11:30 on Saturdays with a dump pass. The brush pile and compost pile are also available on Saturday mornings. Paving on West Main Street is continuing with the hope of being completed at the end of September.

The next DPW meeting will be 9/3/2019 at 6pm in the Council room.

The tourism board has not met since the last council meeting. The next meeting will be 8/14 at 7pm all interested parties are welcome to attend.

Mr. Belcher stressed the importance of the 2020 Census as it drives the allocation of a lot of revenue. He noted that every household will receive an invitation and should respond.

Mr. Santini. He stated that the zoning board met on 8/6 and conducted a public hearing on 67 Ball Street for a fence height variance from 4 feet to 6 feet which was denied and a public hearing was set for their next meeting regarding 29 Cahoonzie Street for a lot coverage variance.

The next zoning board meeting will be 9/3 at 7pm and the next planning board meeting is 9/17 at 7pm.

Mr. Foster- A motion was made by Regis Foster and seconded by Maria Mann to accept the July 29th police committee minutes.

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

Mr. Foster reviewed highlights of the minutes. The next Police Committee meeting is 8/15 at 6pm.

A motion was made by Regis Foster and seconded by George Belcher to accept the July monthly report.

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

Mr. Foster reviewed highlights of the report.

August 12, 2019

A motion was made by Regis Foster and seconded by Maria Mann to appoint Sgt. Robert Card and Sgt. Kevin Reilly to the permanent rank of Sargent due to the completion of their probationary period and required trainings.

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

A motion was made by Regis Foster and seconded by George Belcher to host an overdose awareness event at Veterans park on 8/30 from 12-2pm.

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

A motion was made by Regis Foster and seconded by Gina Fitzpatrick to hire Timothy Colson as a part-time Police clerk/dispatcher effective 8/13/19.

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

The next ADA meeting will be 10/7 at 6:30pm.

Mrs. Mann- The next IDA Meeting is scheduled for 8/19 at 6pm.

Mrs. Trovei – The CDA met on 7/31 and reviewed Section 8 and status of all grants. She noted that the CFA Grant have been submitted. There will be a kickoff meeting for the urban forestry project on 8/19 at 8am. The next CDA meeting is 8/28 at 7pm.

Two motions were made by Kristin Trovei and seconded by George Belcher and Regis Foster respectively for the Trenchless sewer project to approve 2 RFP publications by August 27th with bid openings on 9/24

- 1.) Administration services for the CDBG grant AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED
- 2.) Engineering services for the trenchless sewer installation AYE: 9 ABSENT: 0 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be 8/28 at 6pm

A motion was made by Kristin Trovei and seconded by Regis Foster to approve the July finance minutes.

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

A motion was made by Kristin Trovei and seconded by George Belcher to pay the bills totaling \$1,085,497.12.

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

Mr. Siegel – He noted that the Fire Emergency Meeting scheduled for 7/15 was cancelled and the next meeting will be 8/19 at 7pm.

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, the Port Jervis Fire Police requests the following driver be approved for their Squad: **Brian S Vanderveer**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by Regis Foster as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Neversink Engine Company No. 1 requests the following be approved for Active membership: **Travis A. Conklin**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by George Belcher as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Neversink Engine Company No.1 requests the following be approved for Active membership: **Jennifer M. Bensley**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows:

August 12, 2019

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4 requests the following be reinstated as an Active Member with no loss of time: **Kevin J. McKeon**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Excelsior Engine Company No. 5 requests the following member be removed from the rolls for the reason stated: **Caleb C. Perkowski - non participation, failure to complete probationary term**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by George Belcher as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4 requests the following member be removed from the rolls for the reason stated: **Keegan T. Dunn - transfer to Honorary Rolls of Company**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by Regis Foster as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4 requests the following member be removed from the rolls for the reason stated: **Jeffrey W. Ewing, Jr. - transfer to Honorary Rolls of Company**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Delaware Engine Company No. 2 requests the following member be removed from the rolls for the reason stated: **Alan J. Mosher - deceased**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by George Belcher as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Neversink Engine Company No. 1 requests the following member be removed from the rolls for the reason stated: **Lyn M. Mason - deceased**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by Lisa Randazzo as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Delaware Engine Company No. 2 requests the following member be removed from the rolls for the reason stated: **Nicholas R. McKeon - deceased 06/23/2019**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by George Belcher as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Neversink Engine Company No. 1 requests the following be approved: **Attend the Sussex County parade in Franklin on 10/05/2019**

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows contingent on the Fire Dept Board of Officers approval:

Maghogomock Hook & Ladder Company No. 1 notified me that they need to change their request dated 08/05/2019:

The date of the chicken barbecue is being changed from 8/24/2019 to 10/05/2019; the request to Host a Roast Beef Take Out on 10/19/2019 remains unchanged

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Delaware Engine Company No. 2 requests the following be approved: **Attend a Wet Down in Chester on 08/17/2019**

August 12, 2019

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

A motion was made by Stanley Siegel and Seconded by David Bavoso as follows:

For your consideration and action by the Common Council, Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4 requests the following be approved: **Host a booth at the Fall Foliage Festival on 09/22/2019 selling chili, hotdogs, french fries, soda and water**

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

Mr. Siegel noted that there will be BFO (Basic Firefighters Operations) classes for new firefighters at the Orange County Training Center with 20 sessions held over the months of September and October.

The next meeting of the Port Jervis Housing Authority will be 7pm on 8/27 at Hillside Terrace.

Mr. Siegel encouraged residents to review the Comprehensive Plan as posted on the City Website and noted his thanks to those who worked on the project as it is an important piece of work.

Mr. Siegel informed the Council that he attended some informational sessions on the advancement of battery storage for solar power and will be forwarding information to all council members.

Mr. Belcher- Asked to be heard for an item he forgot which was granted.

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by Regis Foster to approve the August DPW Minutes.

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

Mr. Bavoso-

A motion was made by David Bavoso and seconded by Dominick Santini to approve the creation of a temporary sick bank for DPW employee #450 retroactive to 8/5/2019.

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

A motion was made by David Bavoso and seconded by George Belcher that the City of Port Jervis declare itself the lead agency with respect to the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

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

A motion was made by David Bavoso and seconded by Dominick Santini to declare the Comprehensive plan a type 1 action for Environmental review.

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

A motion was made by David Bavoso and seconded by George Belcher that the Common Council recognizes as lead agency that there are no significant environmental impacts from the comprehensive plan and accordingly this is a negative declaration.

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

A motion was made by David Bavoso and seconded by Regis Foster to adopt the new revised Comprehensive Plan for the City of Port Jervis.

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

Mr. Bavoso thanked everyone involved in the planning process.

For the Good of the City –

Peter Grech - He complained that the public laws and ordinances related to the Common Council meeting were not be applied equally to all. He stated that the Rotary was given additional time during the public comment period that the should have not been afforded. In addition, he noted that the Mayor displayed a flyer when the rules prohibit flyers.

August 12, 2019

Ed DeGroat – Stated that he feels disrespected. He insisted that the old triangular park downtown is a park and must remain a park. He questioned if and why the old building inspector is still being paid.

The Mayor asked Mr. Bavoso to explain. David Bavoso stated that while Mr. Rivera has been charged and is being tried for his actions the matters have not yet been adjudicated and he is entitled to his due process during which it was recommend by our labor attorney that he continue to be paid to avoid a costly lawsuit should he be found not guilty.

Mr. DeGroat expressed his opinion that pay should be withheld until that occurs.

Mr. DeGroat then again voiced opinion about 12-14 Jersey avenue being a park and that nobody de-commissioned it. He again referred to foiled documents where nobody talked to NYS. He accused the Mayor of writing something that was unidentified as to sender.

Mayor Decker responded to the general public that under Urban renewal of 1973 the City purchased two properties and tore down two buildings leaving the foundations underground. The properties were never designated as a park by the State of New York. The assessor in the recording system did identify it as a park for lack of adequate coding options in the County system.

Mrs. Randazzo asked of Mr. DeGroat what exactly it is that he expects of the Council. Mr. DeGroat indicated nothing.

Mrs. Randazzo, as a taxpayer, thanked the Council members individually for their specific volunteer efforts that each perform in the community. She thanked the members of the public who come out and volunteer and are involved as well.

She addressed to Mr. DeGroat that everyone is not bad and that there is a lot of good in the City. She commented that his mission to attempt to find bad things and corruption that is just not there, is sad, but she wishes him well in his endeavors. She recognizes that everything due to processes we must follow and the laws we must obey do not always happen how we would like nor as fast as we would like. She noted that she does not spend her time lying every day nor do others.

Mayor Decker asked if anyone on the Council wanted to make a motion to remove the name criteria for public comment. No council member chose to make a motion and Mr. Siegel stated that he saw no reason to do so.

Lisa Randazzo did acknowledge that there was too much time given to one entity during public comment and that the Council and the Mayor do need to do a better job in policing the time constraint in the future and apologized to Mr. Grech in that regard.

Mayor Kelly Decker – The Mayor indicated that there needs to be forward motion on annexation at the request of some adjoining property owners and that he will need 4 motions in that regard with respect to the Penaluna properties where said agreements will be the same as done for River Country Town Square.

It was noted that these agreements will provide for the maintenance of all roads by Deerpark, Police and Fire service by Port Jervis and a proportionate split of the City Tax revenues.

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by Lisa Randazzo to enter into agreements with the Town of Deerpark for the Penaluna properties.

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

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by Stanley Siegel to have the Penaluna property begin a process of having the zoning changed from high density housing to light industrial changed at the request of the owners.

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

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by Stanley Siegel to begin a zoning change on the under NYS Law 707 for the River Country Town Square to come in to the city as a Service Commercial designation and the Penaluna properties as Light industrial.

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

A motion was made by George Belcher and seconded by Stanley Siegel to have existing city owned property housing a Solar generation field to come into the City through the annexation process.

August 12, 2019

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

A motion was made by Kristin Trovei and seconded by Maria Mann to approve a Life Chain Event on October 13th, 2019 beginning at 1pm.

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

The Mayor highlighted an upcoming Color Run sponsored by the recreation department and Shop-rite on 9/8/2019 where the proceeds will benefit the Honor Flight program.

Mayor Decker gave kudos to Maria Mann for the donation of her time and money to develop new rack cards for the City of Port Jervis promoting our special events and tourism which are being placed in strategic locations including the NYS Thruway rest areas, hotels and restaurants in a 250-mile radius.

Meeting Adjourned – Motion was made by Kristin Trovei, seconded by George Belcher to adjourn.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Next Meeting is scheduled for 7 pm Monday August 26, 2019.

Robin Waizenegger
City Clerk Treasurer