

Common Council Meeting February 22, 2021

Attendance: All members of the Common Council were present except Dominic Santini (late arrival) and Chandler Campbell(absent). Also, in attendance Bobbie Jo Muller, Deputy City Clerk Treasurer, William Frank, Corporation Counsel and Stephanie Tunic Deputy Corporation Counsel. Meeting conducted on Zoom Meeting ID 405 793 5811

Kelly Decker:

All right folks, here we go. It is 6:30 pm, Monday, February 22nd, George Washington's birthday, 2021. We'll call the meeting of the Port Jervis Common Council to order. Before we do attendance, please rise for the pledge. I have a flag behind me.

Members:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. And to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. All right, this time I will entertain a motion to go into executive session. Do I have a motion?

Jerry Oney:

So, moved.

Lisa Randazzo:

So, moved.

Kelly Decker:

A motion by Mr. Oney. A second by Ms. Randazzo. Discussion? All in favor?

Chorus of Ayes

Will Frank:

Mr. Mayor, please state the purpose of executive session.

Kelly Decker:

Yes, so I'm just allowing Dominic on right now. Executive session is actually going to give an update on litigation 105d. There are actually two personnel issues which are 105f. And what would you consider yours, Mr. Frank?

Will Frank:

Just to confer with counsel.

Kelly Decker:

Confer with counsel. Thank you. So, if there are any alterations, we have a motion and a second. All in favor.

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Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Okay, I'm going to stop the recording. Okay, sorry folks for taking a little while. We had a couple of things we had to clear up. It is 7:03 pm. The Common Council comes out of executive session. Do I have a motion to come out of executive session?

Regis Foster:

So, moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Foster.

Kristin Trovei:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Trovei. All right. Before we move forward-

Kristin Trovei:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

...I'm going to ask everybody. Oh. All in favor. Thank you.

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. Okay so I'll ask all for the public to mute your mics, and counsel after I do roll call, to mute your mic so that we don't get any background noise. So, we'll start with Mr. Oney.

Jerry Oney:

Gerald Oney, Councilman, 3rd Ward.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Mayor Decker, present. Ms. Trovei?

Kristin Trovei:

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Kristin Trovei, 3rd Ward, Council.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Stan?

Stan Siegel:
Stan Siegel, 4th Ward, Councilman.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Ms. Mann?

Maria Mann:
Maria Mann, 2nd Ward, Council, present.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Stephanie?

Stephanie Tunic:
Stephanie Tunic, Deputy Corporation Counsel, present.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Mr. Frank?

Will Frank:
Will Frank, Corporation Counsel, present. Good evening.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Regis?

Regis Foster:
Regis Foster, 1st Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Ms. Randazzo?

Lisa Randazzo:
Lisa Randazzo, Councilwoman-at-Large, present.

Kelly Decker:
Thank you. Mr. Simmons?

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Tim Simmons:

Tim Simmons, 4th Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. And Mr. Santini?

Dominic Santini:

Dominic Santini, 1st Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Please let the record note that Ms. Campbell is absent this evening. Okay. So, first matter that we come to. We do not have any public hearing, so we come to public comment. If there's anyone from the public that would like to speak, just unmute your mic and state your name, and your ward or the street that you live on. Is there any public comment? Not hearing anybody. I'm going to ask for the mics to be muted if you're not on the council. Okay. All right. The next order of business is the approval of the minutes from the February 8th, 2021 meeting. What's your pleasure?

Maria Mann:

So, moved.

Kristin Trovei:

So, moved.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Ms. Mann. I have a second by Ms. Trovei. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. Executive session material. Mr. Frank, we have two matters in front of the council. One is in regard to employee #422.

Will Frank:

Yes, Mr. Mayor. Motion to authorize the mayor to engage in discussions to resolve a pending employment dispute with respect to employee #422 in conjunction with city labor council and in the event that acceptable terms are reached in line with the parameters discussed in executive session on this date, the mayor shall be authorized to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

Kelly Decker:

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Do I have a motion?

Jerry Oney:

So, moved.

Kristin Trovei:

So, moved.

Jerry Oney:

Motion by Mr. Oney. Second by Ms. Trovei. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. And the second matter, Mr. Frank, I need for the lease.

Will Frank:

For what?

Kelly Decker:

For the lease amount.

Will Frank:

The license agreement?

Kelly Decker:

Oh, I'm sorry. The license agreement. Sorry.

Will Frank:

Authorization to finalize the license agreement with respect to the Port Jervis Hotel project for the license area to be contracted in the amount of \$400 per month for each month that the license agreement remains in effect.

Kelly Decker:

Do I have a motion?

Lisa Randazzo:

So, moved.

Jerry Oney:

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So, moved.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Ms. Randazzo. I have a second by Mr. Oney.

Jerry Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. Okay, Mr. Foster. Police and ADA.

Regis Foster:

Okay. Thank you, Mayor. Our last meeting was last Thursday and some of the highlights that was discussed was overall activity. Crime is on the rise again, with increasing aggravated assaults, increasing arrests, and also fraud. The Chief discussed looking at purchasing body cameras, went through lengthy discussion on that. Chief updated us on possible retirements for this coming year. The chief updated us on the construction project in the police department, and also the chief discussed the mental health response pilot program.

Regis Foster:

The chief also discussed the ABLE program 2021. What this is, this is a police department has applied to Georgetown University of Law to participate in an active bystandership for law enforcement project, that's what ABLE stands for. This training is free of charge and provided through Georgetown's University innovative policing program in partnership with the law firm, Sheppard Mullin to provide an academic and research based training to officers to successfully intervene to prevent harm and to create a law enforcement culture that supports peer intervention with the goals of preventing misconduct, avoiding police mistakes, and promoting officer health and wellness. The agency is interested in participating in the training. It must commit to the program principles governing training, accountability, officer wellness, participation, pre-preliminary and post-implementation surveys. Following and assisting other agencies with the training, the department has submitted the initial application for the process and requested three members of the department be trained as train the trainers.

Regis Foster:

So, in order to proceed to the next step, the department will need to obtain four letters of support. Two letters must be from the community organizations, local groups advocating for changes in policing faith organizations, et cetera, vouching for the sincerity of the agency's interest and self-improvement in

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general. Additionally, the agency must also submit a third letter from the lender of the agency and a fourth letter from the leader of the jurisdiction which the agency is based upon, and that would be the mayor. So, this program provides evidence-based training that fosters an organizational culture that embraces de-escalation, improved community interactions, and also improved wellness between the officers and the community. So, the chief is recommending at this time, and I'll make a motion to request the authorization from the council for the mayor to write a letter in support of the department to participate in this training initiative.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Foster for a letter to be written. Do I have a second?

Lisa Randazzo:

Second.

Jerry Oney:

Second. Sorry Lisa.

Kelly Decker:

Second, Ms. Randazzo. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Regis Foster:

And that was it for the police. Our next police committee meeting is going to be on April 5th. No, not April 5th, March 18th, at 6 o'clock in the council chambers. ADA has not met. The ADA meeting is going to be on April 5th at 6:30 in the council chambers. I want to thank DPW for doing an outstanding job with all the snow plowing and so forth, especially today in the winter weather that we got. They did a nice job in keeping our streets nice and plowed. Thank you. That's it.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Mr. Santini, code.

Dominic Santini:

Thank you, Mayor. Code has not met since the last council meeting. Next code meeting will be March 3rd at 6 pm, most likely via Zoom, and that's all I have. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

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Thank you, sir. Ms. Campbell is not here but she did ask me to read the recreation report. Recreation update as of today, February 22nd, 2021, thank you to the Special Operations Team of the Port Jervis Fire Department for donating a brand new 55-inch flat screen TV to the recreation room of the youth center. This new TV is replacing a small and old TV that the kids were using. We are sure that the kids will love it. Thank you, Port Jervis Fire Department. The Youth Center Recreation Room is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 3 pm to 6 pm. They are closed on Wednesdays.

Kelly Decker:

Port Jervis Recreation is excited to announce that the Delaware River 5k Run/Walk is back. This year's race will be held Sunday, May 2nd, 2021 at Riverside Park. You can register online at R-A-C-E-R-O-S-T-E-R. It's called raceroster.com. Just research Delaware River 5K Run and you will be directed to our registration page. Sorry, there will not be any race day registrations this year. There are some important changes to know about in this year's race in order that all athletes, family, friends, and event staff can experience the safe event.

Kelly Decker:

The event will be limited to 150 athletes. It will sell out. Please register early to ensure your spot in this fun event celebrating Port Jervis. Walkers will start at 8:45. Runners will start at 9. Masks are required to be worn at all times when on the event site. You may take your mask off after you start. You must put your mask back on as soon as you finish. There will be a touchless athlete check-in on race morning. You will line up socially distanced in a chute and one by one go through the registration, bib and shirt pick up. Awards will be after the race. You will pick up your award at the pavilion by showing your finisher's receipt time and age group placement.

Kelly Decker:

Our Busy Bodies Arts and Crafts Class will start this Saturday February 27th. This five-week class will be held on Saturdays at 10 am at the Youth Center and has just a few openings left. Class is for boys and girls, grades K through 2, this is a free class. This is a COVID safe class. All participants and instructors must wear face masks. Only program participants will be permitted in the building. All supplies and work areas will be cleaned and sanitized.

Kelly Decker:

Hey, don't forget the sleigh riding hill at West End Beach. The hill is open daily from dawn to dusk. Please remember no skis or snowboards. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Their next recreation commission meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, February 25th, at 6 pm. This will be a Zoom meeting. To contact recreation, please call us at 845-858-4045 or email us at recreationdirector@portjervisny.gov. That's all I have for recreation. Next, we have...

Timothy Simmons:

Mayor.

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Kelly Decker:

Yes?

Timothy Simmons:

Mayor, could I?

Kelly Decker:

Sure.

Timothy Simmons:

The members of the Special Operations Team are more than happy to be able to provide that TV for the rec center. In recognition for the help and support that John and Wayne Addy and Greg Conklin gave us to make the event take place. So, it was a unanimous vote, when we took the vote, and they were really pleased that we were able to give back in a small way to the rec center who has helped us out tremendously.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Ms. Mann, Tourism, IDA.

Maria Mann:

Thank you, Mayor. The IDA has not met since their last meeting. Due to a lack of agenda items, they will not be meeting for the month of March. The board is looking for committee members. Anyone interested, please contact the city clerk's or mayor's office. Tourism last met on Wednesday, February 10th. They discussed the upcoming 3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day parade and Blarney Blast scheduled for Sunday, March 7th, at 3 pm. Committee voted on this year's grand marshal. This year's grand marshal will be Thomas McCarron, a long-time community leader, resident, and former second ward councilman. Social distancing guidelines and precautions were discussed due to COVID. A make-up date of April 11th, was also discussed if the event needs to be postponed.

Maria Mann:

The Hudson Valley Regional Police Pipes and Drums Bagpipers will be returning and leading the parade. Lineup will begin at 2:30 on Canal Street. Step off at 3 pm. The parade route will start on Canal Street to Orange Street down Pike Street turning left onto Front Street ending on Jersey Avenue by the Erie Depot. Anyone interested in participating, or any float entries, please contact tourism chair Laura Meyer by email which is floralaurapj@yahoo.com, or call 973-534-4177. The RSVP deadline is March 1st. Again, please follow social distancing guidelines. The parade route will only be shut down during the parade as to allow people to stay in their vehicles along the route for social distance, to avoid crowd gathering and will stop for a few minutes for several times along the route to allow the bands to play. At the end of Front and Fowler, all participants will disperse.

Maria Mann:

The next tourism meeting will be held Wednesday, March 10th, at 7 pm in the council chambers. I also would like to extend my condolences to the Barton family for their loss of Harry, as well as the Shaw

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family for their loss of Patricia. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. That's all. Thank you, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you very much. Mr. Oney, DPW.

Jerry Oney:

Oh. There we go. Could not get that to unmute. Thank you, Mayor. Garbage and Recycling will be on its normal schedule for the next two weeks. Again, just as a reminder, the 2021 garbage schedule is available from each of your council representatives, or by calling the DPW office, or by accessing the City of Port Jervis website.

Jerry Oney:

This next one, going to take some heat for this Jack, but please call the DPW office at 858-4001 to report potholes. Hopefully it's stopped snowing long enough for us to get the potholes located and then filled. The next DPW meeting will be Monday March 1st, at 6 pm on Zoom. I'd like to echo what Regis had said about the performance of the DPW. Today at 4 o'clock, the trucks were out. They were out before that. It's been one snowstorm after another. It seems like constant plowing. In my opinion, there's some bumps along the way but the guys are doing an excellent job. I travel a lot and transportation or being able to travel the local roads here have been great and not so good in some other places. So, they are doing a heck of a job, I'd just like to mention that.

Jerry Oney:

I have a couple of resolutions. The first one is on travel. Whereas the City of Port Jervis Common Council recognizes the need for the need continued training of its staff. Now therefore be resolved that the Common Council of the City of Port Jervis hereby approves the training and travel of the Department of Public Works office. Again, this is all contingent on it actually being able to be done. June, there's a 3-day education classes held at Cornell/Ithaca University for statewide highway public works yearly training school, and various regional meetings, membership meetings, and classes as they arise throughout the year with the cost that was approved in the 2021 budget. I make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

A motion by Mr. Oney. Do I have a second?

Kristin Trovei:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Trovei. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

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Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Jerry Oney:

Mayor, I don't have that bill if you could...

Kelly Decker:

Yep.

Jerry Oney:

... Read the bill.

Kelly Decker:

Give me one second here.

Jerry Oney:

Yeah, so this is in regard to the ozone generator replacement we talked about in finance.

Kelly Decker:

So, you all received, it's actually two bills. This is for the O2 generator. The technician, or engineer, traveling for the amount of \$5,660 and the following for the refurbishment of the air prep which is \$8,075. What's your pleasure?

Jerry Oney:

So, I make a motion to pay those two bills.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Oney. Do I have a second? And this is out of water contingency.

Jerry Oney:

I was in discussion going to clarify that but yes.

Kelly Decker:

Ms. Trovei?

Kristin Trovei:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Discussion? All in favor?

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Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Jerry Oney:

Mayor, I have a couple more resolutions. So, I'd like to make a motion to authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise the RFP for the engineering duties for the New York State Department of Health lead service replacement program. The RFP will be deliverable by 2 pm, March 18th, 2021. I'd like to make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Oney. Do I have a second?

Kristin Trovei:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Trovei. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Jerry Oney:

Next one I have is for materials. I would like to make a motion to authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise for material and services for 2021. This bid request is for materials and service the DP uses during our normal work throughout the year. I make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion from Mr. Oney. Do I have a second?

Lisa Randazzo:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Randazzo. Discussion? All in favor?

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Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Jerry Oney:

The last one I have is a motion to authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise the RFP for the engineering and administrative duties for the Pike Street sidewalk grant under CDBG Project number 938PF14519. The RFP will be deliverable by 2 pm, March 18th, 2021.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Oney. Do I have a second?

Regis Foster:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Foster. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Jerry Oney:

That's all I have, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Ms. Trovei, finance and CDA.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you. The CDA will meet remotely on Wednesday, February 24th, at 7 pm. But I do have two resolutions as well as an announcement. The announcement is in regarding the Orange County home applications. This program helps low to moderate income homeowners or landlords who will rent all or part of their property to low to moderate tenants. This is through the Orange County Office of Community Development and their request for applications for the development of affordable rental housing and home ownership projects under the Home Investment Partnerships Program. Applications are due no later than 4 pm on Friday June 25th, 2021. However, applicants are required to attend a Zoom workshop on March 22nd, 2021 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. The application can be found at the

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Orange County New York website. That's orangecountygov.com. It's under the community development department programs. You can just search for Home Affordable Rental Program. If you would like a copy of the application, you can contact Erin Cousins. She's the project manager. Her phone number is 845-615-3816. There's an email at ecousins@orangecountygov.com.

Kristin Trovei:

We have some resolutions regarding grant applications. This one is New York State Homes and Community Renewal 2020 fiscal year. Funding year, sorry. New York State Community Development Block Grant, CDBG application, for the Port Jervis Wastewater Improvement Project Part II. Whereas the City of Port Jervis held a duly advertised public hearing on February 8th, 2021 to solicit citizen participation and comments regarding possible CDBG applications as due on March 5th, 2021 or any CDBG application thereafter. And whereas verbal comments were received at that meeting and written comments were collected through February 15th, 2021. And whereas the elected officials of the City of Port Jervis have considered all suggestions, and in particular for the application round due on March 5th, 2021 for the 2020 funding year. And whereas the City desires to address a New York State DEC Order on Consent by continuing the Port Jervis Wastewater Improvement Project, whereby a cured-in-place, a.k.a. "trenchless" process rehabilitates in-ground wastewater lines. And whereas the City will contribute \$150,000 each year, totaling \$300,000 over a two-year contract, to this project providing the necessary labor. And now therefore be it resolved that the Common Council of the City of Port Jervis hereby approves the submission of a CDBG Public Infrastructure application to the New York State Homes and Community Renewal Housing Trust Fund Corporation Office of Community Renewal for up to \$1 million dollars in materials and equipment, no later than March 5th, 2021 at 4:00 pm E.T., for the Port Jervis Wastewater Improvement Project Part II, and that the mayor or his designee is authorized to execute any and all documents in connection with his application. Make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

A motion by Ms. Trovei.

Jerry Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Oney. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you. This resolution is in regard to another Community Development Block Grant application, and this is for the Port Jervis East Main Street ADA Sidewalk Project. Whereas the City of Port Jervis held a

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duly advertised public hearing on February 8th, 2021 to solicit citizen participation and comments regarding possible CDBG applications as due on March 5th, 2021 or any CDBG application thereafter. And whereas verbal comments were received at that meeting and written comments were collected through February 15th, 2021. Whereas the elected officials of the city of Port Jervis have considered suggestions and in particular for the application round due on March 5th, 2021 for the 2020 funding year. And whereas the city desires to address ADA non-conformities on its sidewalks on East Main Street between Pike Street and Fowler street. And whereas this 2020 funding year CDBG Public Facilities East Main Street ADA Sidewalk Project will adjoin with the 2019 funding year CDBG Pike Street ADA Sidewalk project already in process. And whereas the City will contribute a total of \$26,500 of in-kind contributions in labor to remove the old sidewalks for the newly proposed 2020FY ADA East Main Sidewalk Project. Therefore, the Port Jervis Common Council hereby approves the submission of a CDBG Public Facilities application to the New York State Homes and Community Renewal Housing Trust Fund Corporation Office of Community Renewal for up to \$300,000 for a 2020 funding year East Main Street ADA Sidewalk Project no later than 4:00 pm on March 5th, 2021, and that the mayor, or his designee, is authorized to execute any and all documents in connection with the application. Make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

A motion by Ms. Trovei. Do I have a second?

Jerry Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Oney. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you. Finance met remotely on Wednesday, February 17th. Some items discussed include the status of the state fund withholding. There was talk at the beginning of the year that the state would release 15% of the 20% being withheld and keep 5% of the permanent cut, but since that comment or consideration was made there has been no word yet, or received since about anything regarding that. So right now, it's still the same as it was before.

Kristin Trovei:

We talked about the New York State retirement system. Their earnings are doing well at 10%, nearly 3% higher than expected. There was no mention of the state redoing the actuary work that was done on March 31st, 2020 during the height of the start of the pandemic which caused our rates to rise due to low market at the time. Our municipality and other municipalities across the state have been asking that

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they re-evaluate that because when they did it, it affected us negatively and our rates went up. But the state has not considered our requests yet.

Kristin Trovei:

We discussed cash flow. It's low. The revenue anticipation note was closed with M&T. The clerk will be following up with the department heads on their 2021 capital note and serial bond requests, with the acknowledgment that capital note may not occur this year, and that a serial bond for things other than the tri-state bridge project overages might not occur. It depends on how things will affect the budget, and how the council decides to address those requests. Those requests are to be submitted to us about a week before the next finance meeting, so the council has adequate time to review and get any sort of additional information they made need.

Kristin Trovei:

We reviewed information on retiring debt schedule, as well any moneys that may be left over from past capital notes or serial bonds. If there is excess, either with the council not completing a project or a purchase, or a cost came in lower, the council and department heads need to decide what to do with those funds such as make the purchase, complete the project, reallocate for an appropriate purchase, pay off principle, et cetera, so that's something that the council will need to continue to look into.

Kristin Trovei:

We discussed the need for a new ozone generator, which we already approved. We did discuss the annexation, trying to get an update as to the timeline and making sure that Deerpark and Port Jervis and the property owners are on the same page when it comes to the agreement, so hopefully we'll be getting some more updates on that soon.

Kristin Trovei:

The next finance meeting will meet on Wednesday, March 24th, at 6 pm. This is a different time than normal due to my inability to make the regularly scheduled meeting, so it's going to be on the 24th at 6 pm and the regular schedule should resume in April. I don't know if it's going... Are we doing in person meetings next month?

Kelly Decker:

I'm going to announce that, but yes. Its intended.

Kristin Trovei:

Okay, so I'll know by the next council meeting whether it's going to be in person or Zoom. And we have bills to pay from the General Fund \$283,362.69, from the Water Fund \$48,302.89, from the Sewer Fund \$10,240.43, from the Capital Fund \$66,683.06, Trust and Agency \$5,266.75, for a total of \$413,855.82. So larger items from the general, water, and/or sewer funds: New York State employee's health insurance \$226,707.69, Orange and Rockland \$22,499.67, Orange County Landfill \$23,094.30, Cargill for the deicer \$5,819.40, from the Capital Fund, Ray S. Pantel \$62,824.50, and Amchar Wholesale \$2,146.22. Make a motion to pay the bills.

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Kelly Decker:

A motion by Ms. Trovei. Do I have a second?

Regis Foster:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Foster. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you. That's all.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you very much. Mr. Simmons, Planning and Zoning.

Tim Simmons:

Thank you, Mayor. The planning board met on, excuse me, Tuesday, February 16th. They had a public hearing on the planned urgent care center on the corner of Fowler and Orchard Street. John Little represented the applicant. The application was approved with conditions regarding lighting and some water control systems that they plan to install on the properties. Their next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 16th, and I would assume it would be an in-person meeting since we'll be going back to that.

Tim Simmons:

The zoning board will meet. Their next meeting will be Tuesday, March 2nd, at 7 pm, and I'm assuming that would be in person as well. And that's all I have, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Mr. Siegel, Fire, Emergency Management, and Housing.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you, Mayor. Fire and Emergency Management meeting was scheduled for February 16th. It was not held due to lack of agenda items. The next meeting will be Monday, March 15th, probably at city hall. I have several items from the department secretary. The first four I'll do in consolidated form, as they all have to do with the removal of members.

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Stan Siegel:

Dear Mayor Decker and members of city council, this is a request that the named below, a member of the Port Jervis Fire Department and the company here and stated, be removed from active membership roles for the reasons stated. Members Daniel R. Slover Jr., S-L-O-V-E-R Jr., Excelsior Engine Company No. 5, reason expelled due to do nonpayment of dues. This change is effective this day, which is February 8th, 2021. I make a motion that we approve that.

Kelly Decker:

A motion from Mr. Siegel.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Do I have a second? By Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you, the next one is William M. Prespare, Excelsior Engine Company No. 5, reason is expelled due to do nonpayment of dues. This change is also effective this date, which is February 8th, 2021. I make a motion that we approve that.

Kelly Decker:

A motion from Mr. Siegel.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

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Stan Siegel:

Thank you, the third one is Christian M. Brown, Excelsior Engine Company No. 5, reason expelled due to do nonpayment of dues. This change is effective this date, which again is February 8th, 2021. I make a motion that we approve that.

Kelly Decker:

A motion from Mr. Siegel.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you, and the fourth on is Maria L. Trapani, T-R-A-P-A-N-I, Tri-State Hose Company No. 6, reason voluntary resignation in good standings. This change is effective this date, and it's February 8th, 2021.

Kelly Decker:

A motion from Mr. Siegel. Second?

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

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Thank you. We have one nomination for active membership, Elizabeth Stine, S-T-I-N-E, has hereby requested the below named person be approved for active membership into the Port Jervis Fire Department in the company stated. Elizabeth Stine Delaware Engine Company No. 2. The board of officers of the Port Jervis Fire Department approve this application 2/8/21, and by the respective company on the date stated on the individual's application, and this is dated February 8th. I make a motion we approve that.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

A motion be Mr. Siegel. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed. So, carried.

Stan Siegel:

So, on a private note, that puts us in a more negative position. So if there's anybody out there that would like to be a firefighter and help their community, they should feel free to contact any firefighter, any chief, or myself for an application and we'll be proud to take a look at your application.

Stan Siegel:

Moving on. We have an appointment for a probationary driver, Caitlyn P. Rodriguez. It is hereby requested that the below named firefighter be approved as a probationary driver for the company stated. Caitlyn P. Rodriguez, Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4. Attached is a copy of the driver's license duly issued by the state of New York. This information was previously entered into New York State Department of Motor Vehicles license event notification service. This service will notify the department upon expiration, and removal of a driver's license, to suspension, revocation, and restoration of a driver's license. Changes to the driver's license state, I'm sorry, class and privilege, traffic convictions, reportable accidents, driver's license suspension revocation orders, completion of a training course to reduce insurance premiums, changes to HazMat license endorsements, and changes to Med Cert status.

Stan Siegel:

This request was approved by the board of officers on February 8th, 2021. I make a motion we approve that.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

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Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Tim Simmons:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you. Election of company secretary, Excelsior Engine Company No. 5. This is to inform you that Excelsior Engine Company No. 5, at their January 20th, 2021 meeting, elected the following person to their vacant position of company secretary, James B. Fuller. It's requested that the Common Council approve this action, which was passed by the board of officers this date, and this is dated February 8th, 2021. I make a motion we approve that.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you. Disbandment of auxiliary Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4. Howard Wheat Engine Company No. 4, at their January 27th, 2021 meeting, ordered the disbandment of their auxiliary, which is now no longer part of the company and the department. It's requested that the Common Council approve this action, which was passed by the officers this date, and this is dated February 8th, 2021. I make that a motion, we approve that.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

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Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

And we have two events. The first event is Maghogomock Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. Maghogomock Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 requests permission to hold the following raffle to be drawn on 7/10/2021. It's for a leather helmet. This evening the board of officers approved these requests, and it's dated February 8th, 2021. I make a motion we approve that.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion? All in favor?

Tim Simmons:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Okay, and thank you. And the last one of those is events, Excelsior Engine Company No. 5. Excelsior Engine Company No. 5 requests permission to attend, participate, or host the following events. One, host a Dayton 500 party on 2/14/2021, which has passed but was approved by the Mayor. Hold a pizza takeout on Good Friday 4/2/2021. Third one, host and old timer's night on 5/22/2021. Fourth, attend the soap box derby with pizza and funnel cake booth on 6/6/2021. Fifth is attend the 20th annual candlelight vigil at the Fireman's Memorial Park in Washingtonville. There's no date, but we'll get the date. Sixth, attend the Fall Foliage Festival with a pizza and funnel booth on 9/26/2021. Seven, host the children's Christmas party on 12/19/2021, and eight, attend the parade in Middletown on a date to be yet determined.

Stan Siegel:

This evening the board of officers approved these requests. I make a motion we approve that as well.

Tim Simmons:

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Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel. Second by Mr. Simmons. Under discussion, Mr. Siegel the soap box derby hasn't come to us yet. I know they'll be coming in the next meeting or two, as I've had discussion with their leadership. However, it normally falls on the second Sunday in June, which is the 13th, not the 6th. So, if you want, just want to make that amendment.

Stan Siegel:

Okay. I'll amend that to the 13th.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, thank you.

Tim Simmons:

And the candlelight vigil in Washingtonville is always on 9/11.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you.

Stan Siegel:

9/11?

Tim Simmons:

Yes.

Kelly Decker:

Any further discussion? All in favor?

Tim Simmons:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Stan Siegel:

I'm just glad to see that we're starting to look toward normalcy. It's pretty exciting that we're doing that. Also, if I can get my notes together here, I'd like to express my personal condolences and those of the fire department to the Barton family on the passing of Harry. Harry was a good friend. He'll be missed at the Sixes. He'll certainly be missed in the department as well. It's sad when we lose good volunteers, so my condolences to that family.

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Stan Siegel:

And the firefighters that are scheduled for a second vaccination tomorrow in Goshen should have gotten an email today. If they did not get the email, they should look at their email and send it back. They're not scheduling a second one beyond tomorrow. And if they did get an email, make sure you fill out the form, so you get there, and you pick a time to be there.

Stan Siegel:

Oh yeah. Also, I'd like to congratulate Rich Santini for his award that he got in the police department. And that's all I have, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Ms. Randazzo.

Lisa Randazzo:

Thank you, Mayor. I don't have anything at this time.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. We move to public comment. Does anybody from the public have anything to discuss on things that we've talked here tonight? If you want to speak from the public, just unmute your mic, and state your name and the ward or the street you live on.

Michael Ward:

Michael Ward, ward number three. Just want to emphasize my appreciation for all that DPW had done in clearing the massive amounts of snow over the last few weeks. And also, speaking as president of the Outdoor Club, thanking them for clearing the parking lots in the recreational areas of which we have seen a multitude of people out there, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, and just hiking in the snows. Thank you very much.

Michael Ward:

And one last thing, thank you council for all you did on the budget for this year. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Michael. Anyone else from the public? Do you have something Stan?

Stan Siegel:

Yeah, I forgot about the housing authority report.

Kelly Decker:

Oh, yeah. That'd help. Thank you.

Stan Siegel:

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And I don't want to get scolded because I see David in there, the chairman. The last meeting was on January 26th. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow the 23rd, at 7 pm via Zoom. And that's all I have now, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Okay, so the last thing I have. I have a handful of different things, but I definitely want to put out my condolences to the Barton family. Harry was a good friend, member of Sixes, with them for many years. Harry, a lot of people probably wouldn't even know Harry, but he would give his all for anything and for anyone and our condolences to the Barton family. Big advocates of Engine 6 and Tri-State. The whole family's involved.

Kelly Decker:

My first thing I'm asking for is either approval of the Outdoor Club's Stone Challenge number three. They got number two coming up, which we already approved. But last time, for some reason, when we did those approvals for the Outdoor Club this was in there, but I just didn't get it. So, this for the challenge three, 5k 10k run for November 14th, 2021. What's your pleasure?

Tim Simmons:

Motion.

Jerry Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

I got Mr. Simmons. I saw you pop up, and Mr. Oney?

Jerry Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. Discussion? All in favor?

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. I have two re-appointments to do. These are both for the planning board. Both Mr. Henry Dunn and Mr. Joseph Butto have both agreed to continue on the planning board, so I am giving them the five-year appointment which begins January 31st and will go through January 31st, 2026. That doesn't need a vote.

Kelly Decker:

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Before I get to the personal announcement that was on the agenda, I have two items. One, I extended the limited state of emergency to March 1st, so you will see that the DPW meeting will be the last meeting on Zoom. Basically, how this is going to work is the same way we did when we came out of it in June. There will be social distancing in the council room when there are any meetings, including the council meeting. As long as the numbers continue to trend down, and they don't spike, we will continue to experience in-session meetings which sometimes are a lot easier to communicate with. So, although we still have approvals, I believe there was just an extension, Mr. Frank, until the 16th of March. I saw something come up today. Yes.

Kelly Decker:

Ms. Tunic is saying, "Yes."

Will Frank:

Yeah.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, so ours is just going to March 1st for now. Obviously, if within this timeframe through March 1st, there is a spike and numbers start to go up, or during the time that we're in meetings if we have to revert back to Zoom, we will. But I'm hoping we don't. And so again, that's until March 1st. After March 1st, City Hall doors will be open. It'll be the same way; you'll have to wear your masks in City Hall. If you're coming to the city clerk's office, you don't have to make an appointment, but you do have to stand online. There are markers in the hallway where you will stand, one person in the office at a time.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, that and the other thing was, and Ms. Mann pointed on it a few times but I'm just going to reiterate, that the St. Patrick's Day parade is scheduled for March 7th. Again, if the numbers continue to stay the same or trend down, we will have the St. Patrick's Day parade with provisions. If for some reason we have to cancel, we are going to postpone it until April 11th. Now, so what are those things? We've extended that route almost three to four times. As she said, it's going to start on Orange... Well, line up is on Canal Street. And we're going to ask everybody that's in the parade that lines up to social distance. We have all of Canal Street to use.

Kelly Decker:

The roads will not be shut down, and the purpose of that is, if you want to come with your family to watch the parade, come and park your car along the parade route and sit in your car to watch the parade. This is the best for social distancing. The other thing that we're looking to do is the floats, and the bands, and the participants will be judged at the lineup. Towards the end of the parade route, they'll be handed their trophies, rather than there be a mass gathering.

Kelly Decker:

Our bands will stop at several places along the way to perform their numbers, so there will be no gathering all the way down at the end at the promenade. And so, as the parade goes by the promenade, where I'm sure that there'll be people from the tourism board as well as the grand marshal handing out

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the trophies, the parade will continue on and disperse from there. We're hoping that this is one of our first social events that will be safe, but that will also start to the realization that we can get back to some normalcy. So, thank you, and congratulations to Mr. McCarron on being named the grand marshal.

Kelly Decker:

That being said, I have some major news to give tonight. Many of the council members that were at the finance meeting are aware of this, as I brought it up at the finance meeting in executive session, but I have a retirement letter in front of me. It is by Mrs. Robin Waizenegger, our city clerk treasurer. She states that she has worked here for the past 16 plus years. It has been a memorable experience, filled with both it's highs and lows of managing city government. She had the pleasure of working with many different teams, both elected and hired officials, during her tenure which has broadened her perspective on government and its service to the public. She announces that her retirement from full time employment will be April 30th, 2021.

Kelly Decker:

So, at this time I am charging our finance committee, which is led by Kristin Trovei so she will lead this along with the finance committee to begin to process of seeking a new city clerk treasurer. And that would involve putting out a search for somebody for that position, as well as doing interviews. And so, Robin has also offered her services after her retirement VIA part-time VIA like a Zoom or online, as she will be out of the area for most of the summer. And I will bring that up again at finance, that piece.

Kelly Decker:

And so, with that said, 16 years working for the city. She's gone through a lot of struggles with us. I will tell you, for at least my last seven budgets it's been... I'm sorry, eight budgets. It's definitely been trying, but she has done a great job of making our city operate. We didn't always just agree. We agreed to disagree at times, and I'm sure other people have to. And we will have a time to properly bid her a fond farewell, but as of right now she has announced her retirement as of April 30th, 2021. So, we thank you Robin, even though she's not on here. She might be watching, she might not. And her deputy is on tonight, Bobbie Jo, and has been filling in for her for this week and doing a great job.

Kelly Decker:

With that said, is there anything else from any of the council members?

Jerry Oney:

No.

Kelly Decker:

Not hearing any. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Regis Foster:

So, moved.

Stan Siegel:

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Second.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion from Mr. Foster. Second by Mr. Siegel. Discussion?

Stan Siegel:

Stay safe.

Kelly Decker:

All in favor.

Members:

Chorus of Ayes

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you very much.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm. The next Council Meeting will be Monday, March 8th, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

Bobbie Jo Muller, Deputy City Clerk Treasurer