

**Regular Meeting - City of Port Jervis Common Council :**

A 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 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

**Attendance-**

<b>Regis Foster</b>	<b>1st Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Elizabeth Miller</b>	<b>1st Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Maria Mann</b>	<b>2nd Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Misty Fuller</b>	<b>2nd Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Denis Livingston</b>	<b>3rd Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Michael Decker</b>	<b>3rd Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Timothy Simmons</b>	<b>4th Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Melissa Newhauser</b>	<b>4th Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Stanley Siegel</b>	<b>Councilman-At-Large</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Kelly Decker</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>Present</b>

Also, present City Clerk-Treasurer Treasurer Laura Quick, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Treasurer Bobbi Jo Muller, and Counsel Will Frank.

Meeting opened at 6:30 pm by Mayor Decker.

Kelly Decker:

It is 6:30 PM. March 14th Monday. I'll pull the Port Jervis Common Council to order please rise for the pledge.

Group:

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:

God bless America. Okay, I'll start off with roll call. Mr. Foster.

Regis Foster:

Regis Foster, Councilman, First Ward, present.

Kelly Decker:

Ms. Miller.

Liz Miller:

Liz Miller, First Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Ms. Fuller.

Misty Fuller:

Misty Fuller, Second Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Ms. Mann.

Maria Mann:

Maria Mann, Second Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Siegel.

Stan Siegel:

Stan Siegel, Councilman at large, present.

Kelly Decker:

Kelly Decker, Mayor, present. Mr. Decker.

Mike Decker:

Mike Decker, Third Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Livingston.

Denis Livingston:

Dennis Livingston, Third Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Simmons.

Tim Simmons:

Tim Simmons, Fourth Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Ms. Newhauser.

Melissa Newhauser:

Melissa Newhauser, Fourth Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:  
And Mr. Frank.

William Frank :  
William Frank, Corporation Council present.

Kelly Decker:  
Okay. We'll start off with public comment.

Kelly Decker:  
Thank you. And Ms. Courtney Bicknell.

Maria Mann:  
Just go up to the podium there.

Kelly Decker:  
Just state your name and what your initiative is.

Courtney Bicknell:  
My name is Courtney Bicknell. Hi everybody. It's my first time at one of these council meetings. So, for Port Jervis, I feel very driven towards doing a cleanup initiative. And this started actually, when I was living in San Diego, California years ago, they had a once-a-month cleanup initiative over there that really brought the community together. And being in this area now I work locally on Front Street, and I actually live right behind Save A Lot, it's right where the consignment store or Salvation Army is next to the library. And that brought me some inspiration because that area is highly littered, just layers and layers, probably from the years of forgotten items, this sort of thing, and people go back there and dump. So, I started reaching out to other community members, talking to people, one of them being Mayor Kelly. And I found out also to Valerie and John Faggione, that the mayor was doing service Saturday, something along this line, a year or two ago, and that kind of stopped with the pandemic.

Courtney Bicknell:  
So, I got in touch with the mayor via email, and he was really liking the idea too, because he wanted to start up this service Saturday again and I'd like to be a big part of facilitating that. So, I think a once-a-month cleanup would be really great, and starting on Saturdays so that the children can get involved too. I was talking to John; I know it's good for their credits going into college. And it would be really great to get the community together, get motivated about taking care of our planet, our community, and get that instilled in the children as well. So, with that, what else? Oh, sorry, it's my first time speaking like this so I'm a little nervous.

Kelly Decker:  
You're doing well. [crosstalk 00:04:38].

Courtney Bicknell:

Thank you. So, some of the things also, I wanted to implement some incentives for the community and one of those, I'm starting to go around and talk to local businesses. One, I work at Awakening, therefore I talk to the Foundry42 and Fogwood & Fig, and on that certain day, when we do the cleanup, I have stamps, and I could stamp your hand that you were there and then go to participating businesses and you could get 10% sale that day for being part of the cleanup. And it would get people also into the businesses and get involved that way. I talked to Rachel, who is the administrator for Port Jervis Whatnots on Facebook. I mean, everything in Port Jervis Whatnots, and she's definitely into us having a poll once a month, maybe three locations that we think would be really good to clean up. And then the community gets to have a voice and take a poll on what they think the best place would be. And we could go into those highly sought-after places and also getting their feedback as well, having an open discussion on Facebook, this sort of thing.

Courtney Bicknell:

And the third thing for incentive, actually right after this, I'm going to Camelot Care because Barbara's over there with a bunch of artists, she's going for this art grant. So, I think it would be really cool as well to ask local artists if they're interested in donating a piece of artwork, that's all about ecological awareness and about the cleanup initiative. And we can put those pieces up in participating businesses as well. And that's just... My thing is getting many different layers of connection together and reaching out to all the program, people. I, supporting them. I know that John is doing a cleanup on April 9th, he said that he does this yearly, so I'll be participating in that. I'm very new to all this, but I'm fully committed. And this is what my heart is telling me to do. So, I think it would be very beneficial for us to have this sort of cleanup once a month with everybody. Yeah.

Kelly Decker:

Yeah. So, this would continue under the guise of community service Saturdays, except that Courtney is thinking that spearhead to move it even in the next step. Just tell them the day that you're looking to start it.

Courtney Bicknell:

Okay. So today I'm also representing... I have, make everyday earth day shirt on. So, earth, earth day is April 22nd, that's on a Friday. So, the first Saturday, which is April 23rd, it's going to be a big earth day celebration. It's the perfect day. It's the weekend after Easter as well. And 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM would be ideal time for me. And I think that's a reasonable time if kids want to come too, not too early, that sort of thing.

Kelly Decker:

And two hours is a perfect time. It's 11:00 AM, the kids are getting up out of bed, so it is the right time. The following week is Arbor Day, so it all works out together.

Courtney Bicknell:

It really does. And I talked to Jim, tree committee or tree commission and maybe him and I will connect about planting trees as well. I'm not sure if we'll be able to do that for the first one, but he likes that idea going forward. So, we might be able to hook something up, planting trees as well, at least one of the times when we do the cleanup too.

Kelly Decker:

So are you going to talk to Rachel about doing a survey of three different places and-

Courtney Bicknell:

Yeah, I talked to her about it, and she said that she loves the idea.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. So, if she could start that right away, because what we want to do is we want to be able to give people enough time to say, "All right, I know where I'm going on this date."

Courtney Bicknell:

Exactly. Yeah. So, we'll start that up this week and I'll get the advertising and that sort of thing, and get businesses involved. And know who's on the spot list, who's going to be participating business wise as well.

Mike Decker:

Awesome. And also, locations in which you're going to be at.

Courtney Bicknell:

Exactly.

Kelly Decker:

Well, I think it's one location each time, right? Each month has one location.

Courtney Bicknell:

One location each time, but we'll have, like you said, the poll where people can voice their opinions and be able to choose and it'll be very interactive that way. Yeah.

Kelly Decker:

Perfect.

Courtney Bicknell:

Woo-hoo.

Kelly Decker:

Great. Thank you. So, we don't have a location set yet?

Group:

No.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. It was funny because we thought along the same line. She sent me the email and I said, "I just happened to have gone behind 100 Pike Street." And it's technically not 100 Pike street's property. It's technically not the library's property-

Kelly Decker:

It's kind of a no man's land.

Kelly Decker:

And the Rec Center is right there. So, part of it is our property and it's really messed back there. So, we both said the same thing.

Kelly Decker:

It goes right up the-

Courtney Bicknell:

But I would love for that to be the first location, and in the meanwhile then have people start discussing and get the other three locations started for the next time. But I would love for the first location to be that spot behind us. Save A Lot.

Kelly Decker:

Then let's finance. But of course-

Courtney Bicknell:

Let's do it.

Kelly Decker:

Let's finance. Sounds good.

Courtney Bicknell:

Yeah. Awesome.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you.

Courtney Bicknell:

Thank you so much.

Kelly Decker:

We're in stone.

Courtney Bicknell:

Okay. I would say I'm going to run to Pamela and go talk to people.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you very much.

Courtney Bicknell:

Thank you so much.

Mike Decker:

Thank you.

Courtney Bicknell:

Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Anyone else?

Group:

Thank you. Have a goodnight.

Group:

Thank you. Have a good night.

Courtney Bicknell:

Woo-hoo, you too.

Kelly Decker:

Not hearing any. I will entertain a motion to go into executive session. The first thing I got to ask is we can go into my conference room, although I have all those boxes in there. Smells a little musty, does anybody object going in there?

Group:

No.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. So, I need a motion for executive session-

Kelly Decker:

Hold on. I have to add on, I have 105.1 H times three for real estate, 89 Hammond, 7 Fall, 6 Myrtle. I have to add, I have 105.1 F, it was times two, but it's now times four, for personnel. Actually, three DPW issues and one building apartment. What's your pleasure?

Tim Simmons:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Simmons.

Denis Livingston:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Livingston. Discussion. All in favor.

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried. Thank you. Hopefully, we won't be long

It is 7:46 PM, I'll entertain a motion to come out of the executive session.

Denis Livingston:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Livingston, do I have a second?

Mike Decker:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Decker. Discussion. All in favor.

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Thank you. Approval of the common council minutes first, February 28th council meeting, what's your pleasure.

Regis Foster:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Foster.

Liz Miller:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Miller. Discussion. All favor.

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Approval of the March 8th special common council meeting minutes, what's your pleasure?

Tim Simmons:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Simmons.

Melissa Newhauser:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Newhauser. Discussion. All in favor.

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed?

Denis Livingston:

One abstain.

Kelly Decker:

Two abstentions. Thank you. Okay. Addressing executive session material, 89 Hammond Street, what's your pleasure? This is for a reduced offer from \$60,000 to \$40,000.

Stan Siegel:

Motion to accept.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Siegel, do I have a second?

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Thank you. 7 Fall Street, I have a motion for an offer of \$30,000, what's your pleasure?

Stan Siegel:

Motion to accept.

Denis Livingston:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel, second by Mr. Livingston. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Thank you. A motion to authorize the mayor to sign a release agreement for former DPW employee, what's your pleasure?

Tim Simmons:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Simmons.

Denis Livingston:

Second,

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

I have a motion that has to have information added to it about a return of the employee. Mr. Frank.

William Frank :

Motion to approve the memorandum of agreement. Having the employee in question returned to employment with the city of Port Jervis, subject to the individual having the computer and telephone capabilities to perform all essential functions of his position no later than March 28th, 2022. What's your pleasure?

Tim Simmons:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed?

Liz Miller:

Oppose.

Kelly Decker:

So carried. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. All right. That's all that I have in executive section. Regular business, Mr. Foster.

Regis Foster:

Thank you, Mayor. At this time, we'd like to make a motion to accept the Department of Justice, safe neighborhood grant funding and reducing violent crime, illicit narcotic dealings, criminal organizations and gangs, fear and disorder by coordinating multi-jurisdictional criminal investigations and increasing

effective community policing initiative, and partnership with local state and federal law enforcement agencies, have unified approach to enhanced trust, legitimacy, and foster safe neighborhoods in our cities for approximately \$128,175, and I make that motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Foster, do I have a second.

Denis Livingston:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed. So carried.

Regis Foster:

And to do a follow up, the installation of fixed license plate readers cameras at city borders and purchase of covert surveillance equipment will be into this as well. Also, at this time, everybody has received the monthly February report. I'd like to make a motion to accept it.

Kelly Decker:

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

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Regis Foster:

So, the highlights, total incidence for the month was 794. Total of tickets issued for the month was 260. Total mileage on patrol vehicles was 9,533. Total domestics for the month was 30. Total arrest for the month was 65. Traffic tickets issued was 171. Speeding was 16. Unlicensed and suspensions was 35. And

overnight parking was 66. At this time, I would like to make a motion to approve Chief William warden's contract for two years.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Foster, second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

And its three years. Is a three-year agreement.

Regis Foster:

It says '22 to '24.

Kelly Decker:

Yeah. So the year of 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Regis Foster:

January '22. And also, I'd like to make a motion to accept John Fitzpatrick's contract as well.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Foster.

Tim Simmons:

Seconded.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Tim Simmons:

Excuse me. Do we have to redo the motion and second?

Group:

Because he said two years instead of three years?

Kelly Decker:

No, I think I changed it to three.

Regis Foster:

He changed it.

Tim Simmons:

Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

Tim Simmons:

Just want to make sure.

Kelly Decker:

Yeah, thank you.

William Frank :

The contract is presented to the council.

Tim Simmons:

Okay.

Regis Foster:

Yeah. At this time each year, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated with the city parades, plenty Leprechaun hats and plenty of green beer. Unfortunately, this often end with risky drunk drivers taking to the streets when the party's end. Drunk driving accounts for nearly one third of vehicle related fatalities and United States. The St Patrick's Day please remember that buzzed driving is drunk driving. If you plan to go out and enjoy the evening with alcohol, make sure you refrain from driving, review these facts, and share the word about the dangers of drunk driving.

Regis Foster:

So, you can continue merry making for all the St. Patrick's Days to come. The city of Port Jervis police department has been awarded enforcement grant funding through orange county, in which they will be out and about on St Patrick's day so please be responsible when driving. And also, please celebrate responsibilities and doing your part to help keep our roadways safe. Be responsible, walk, ride, carpool, or call a cab don't drink and drive. For more information you can go on to [www.stopwdi.org](http://www.stopwdi.org). Our next police committee meeting will be held on March 30th, right here at 6:15, in the county chambers. The ADA had met last week, last Monday. We are going to take a look at another meeting for our quarterly meetings. So, we'll get back to you when that is scheduled. Thank you, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Ms. Miller, finance.

Liz Miller:

Thank you. We have bills to be paid from the general fund account, \$649,234.07. From the water fund \$22,961.25. From the sewer fund, \$3093.89. From the capital fund, \$149,719. From trusted agency, \$853,459.12, bringing us to a total of \$1,678,467.33. Some larger numbers to note from the general water and sewer funds, the city of Port Jervis clean sale properties for \$460,000... Whoops, sorry, \$460,861.08. From [inaudible 00:21:45], \$29,800, from R.C. Lain, \$22,749.99. And for Orange & Rockland \$43,579.72. And from the capital fund, Hoffman International for a snowblower, \$149,719. So, I would like to make a motion to pay the bills.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Ms. Miller, do I have a second?

Misty Fuller:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried. Thank you.

Liz Miller:

I also have a resolution of the common counsel of the city of Port Jervis to adopt LGS-1, retention and disposal schedule resolved by the common council of the city of Port Jervis New York, that retention and disposition schedule for New York local government records, issued pursuant to article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is here by adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein. Further resolve that in accordance with article 57-A only those records will be disposed of that are described in retention and disposition schedule for New York local government records after they have met the minimum retention periods prescribed therein. B, only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods. So, I'd like to make a motion to accept this resolution.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Miller. Do I have a second?

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Liz Miller:

I have another resolution of the common council of the city of Port Jervis, for the auction of comic books and vinyl albums. Whereas the city of Port Jervis common council authorizes a mayor to hire an internet auction company to sell comic books and vinyl albums recovered from storage. And whereas all items will be sold as is, with the city of port Jervis making no guarantee as to the condition of set items. It is here by resolved and reaffirm that the common council of the city of Port Jervis here by authorizes the mayor or his designee to hire an internet auction company to sell the comic books and vinyl albums in as is conditions. So, I'd like to make that motion.

William Frank :

Can we just... I'm sorry. Can we just amend that motion to declare all of that property is surplus and no longer needed by the city for any purpose, please.

Kelly Decker:

Just add that to your...

Liz Miller:

Say that.

Kelly Decker:

All you have to do is just, I'll add that to my-

Liz Miller:

I'll add that to my motion.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Liz Miller:

What he said.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Ms. Miller, a second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Liz Miller:

I'd also like to make a motion to approve the finance committee meeting minutes from our February meeting, which occurred on February 16th.

Denis Livingston:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Ms. Miller, second by Mr. Livingston. This is for the February minutes?

Liz Miller:

Yeah. February 16th, meeting.

Kelly Decker:

Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Liz Miller:

And just a reminder, our next finance committee meeting will be held this Wednesday, March 16th at 6:00 PM here in the council chambers. And that is all I have. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Ms. Fuller, fire emergency manager.

Misty Fuller:

Thank you, Mayor. I have three letters of correspondence from the fire department, all three dated March 7th, 2022. The first, "Dear Mayor Decker, and members of the city council, this is to request that Delaware Engine Company #2, be permitted to, change their previously approved horseshoe tournament from September 10th, 2022 to September 18th, 2022." I make that a motion that we accept the change and date on the-

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Fuller. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Misty Fuller:

The second letter is, "Dear Mayor Decker, and members of the city council, this is to request that the below name member, a member of the Port Jervis fire department and company herein, be removed from active membership rolls, Michael J Cicalese, Howard Engine company #4, deceased on February 17th, 2022." I make a motion that we approve that removal.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Fuller. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion.

Tim Simmons:

With regret.

Kelly Decker:

With deep regret.

Tim Simmons:

Yes.

Kelly Decker:

All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Misty Fuller:

And the last letter is to request that the below name member, a member of the Port Jervis of fire department and company herein be removed from active membership rolls, for the reason stated, Jonathan E. Ross, Howard Engine Company #4, is a voluntary resignation. I make a motion that we accept this resignation.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Fuller, second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Misty Fuller:

And we have a request from the fire chief for himself and two members to attend a firehouse with design expo in Rosemont, Illinois. He would like to take those funds from his school and seminar line to cover the expenses. I make a motion that we accept this request and allow them to travel.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Fuller. Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Misty Fuller:

The next meeting of fire and emergency management will be on March 21st. And we've moved that to 6:45 PM because of the special meeting. And that's all I have Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Ms. Mann, Tourism, IDA.

Maria Mann:

Thank you, Mayor. Tourism last met on Wednesday, March 9th, due to the weather they met by Zoom. You all received the minutes from the March 9th meeting, I'd like to make a motion to approve them.

Kelly Decker:

That was the March 9th?

Maria Mann:

Correct.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. I have a motion by Ms. Mann. Second by Mr. Livingston. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Maria Mann:

The committee reviewed the St Patrick's Day parade. Next year's parade's date was set for Sunday, March 5th, 2023. Some of the trophy winners, we have the Matamoras Fire Department for best presentation of first responders, Brownie's Troop 00706 for both time and spirit. Westchester County Firefighters, Emerald Society Pipes and Drums for best marching unit, VFW Post 161 for best St Patrick's Day flow. I don't know if I'm going to pronounce this correctly, the [Sheehan 00:28:34] Port [inaudible 00:28:36], received the Grand Marshalls Choice, Michael McCarthy Memorial award. Thank you to everyone who made the parade such a success, the participants bands, dancers, firefighters, ambulance, police, fire police, DPW, volunteers, and tourism more. The citywide [inaudible 00:28:55] sale will be held on Saturday, May 7th, from 9:00 to 4:00, applications are available at the city clerk's office and should be listed on the city website.

Kelly Decker:

it's on the city website under events.

Maria Mann:

Okay. Thank you. For further information, please contact tourism chair Laura Meyer, at floralaurapj@yahoo.com. The next tourism meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13th at 7:00 PM, here in the council chambers. The IDA has not met since their last meeting. Their next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 30th at 6:00 PM here in the council chamber. And that's all. Thank you, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Mr. Decker, planning and zoning.

Mike Decker:

Zoning did not meet this month due to a lack of agenda. The next meeting scheduled for April 5th at 7:00 PM here in the council chambers, and planning is due to me tomorrow night, March 15th at 7:00 PM. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Mr. Livingston, DPW, CDA.

Denis Livingston:

Thank you, mayor. First, I have a resolution of the common council of the city of Port Jervis for a probationary cleaner. Whereas the city of Port Jervis common council recognizes the retirement of cleaner Jerry Stellato, #454, effective 3-11-2022. And whereas the city of Port Jervis common council recognizes the need to appoint a probationary cleaner. And whereas Tiffany Topel meets the minimum qualifications for the position. And it is hereby resolved and reaffirmed that the common council of the city of Port Jervis, hereby appoints Tiffany Topel as the probationary cleaner effective March 21st, 2022. And I make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Livingston. Do I have a second.

Mike Decker:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Denis Livingston:

I'd next like to make a motion to hire Major League Maintenance and Landscaping to remove interior trash in basement apartment of 106 Ball Street, at the cost of \$3,600. And I'd like to make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Livingston. Do I have a second?

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Denis Livingston:

I'd also like to make a motion to hire Major League Maintenance and Landscaping to remove all interior debris and exterior debris. All metal will be left on the property for city pickup, for 38 Railroad Circle for \$3,600, and I'd like to make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Livingston.

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Denis Livingston:

The next thing I would like to make a motion to retain Lamont Engineering for schematic design for the DPW complex.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Livingston.

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Denis Livingston:

I'd like to make a motion to have Laura put together an RFP for Trenchless Sewer Lining Services.

Kelly Decker:

So, this is for the CDBG?

Denis Livingston:

Right. CDBG grant.

Kelly Decker:

Fiscal year 2020 Trenchless Sewer grant. Mr. Livingston's motion. Do I have a second?

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion.

Denis Livingston:

For advertising it.

Group:

I'm going to put it out for advertising. Yes. Yeah.

Denis Livingston:

For the RFPs, right.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Denis Livingston:

And I'd like to make a motion that the city remain in that home consortium through 2023.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Livingston. Just so you know, when you got that you had two, but it's actually through 2023. Second.

Liz Miller:

I'll second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Ms. Miller. Discussion. All in favor.

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Denis Livingston:

Okay. DPW update. Garbage and recycling will be done on the normal schedule for the week of March 14th. The week of March 21st, all garbage and recycling will be on their normal schedule. Paper pickup will be on its normal schedule. The 2022 garbage schedule is available on the city website at [www.portjervisny.gov](http://www.portjervisny.gov) or by emailing the DPW office at [dpwclerk@portjervisny.gov](mailto:dpwclerk@portjervisny.gov). The leaf pile and brush pit will be opened April 15th weather permitting. Street sweepers will start at the end of March, again, weather permitting, and street sweeping ongoing. First Interim Assistant DPW Director candidate has ended as of yesterday, and I'd like to introduce Mark Mueller, he's our next candidate for the interim assistant director position. I'd also like to thank DPW workers for their great job on the snow cleanup this past weekend. And the next DPW meeting will be held on April 4th, at 6:00 PM, in the council chambers. CDA has not met since our last class council meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, March 24th, 2022, at 7:00 PM, at the Youth Center on Park Street. And that's all Mayor. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Mr. Simmons, code.

Tim Simmons:

Thank you, mayor. I'd like to make a motion to accept the minutes of the code meeting from March 8th. I believe everyone received that in an email today.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Simmons to-

Denis Livingston:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

... approve them. Second by Mr. Livingston. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Tim Simmons:

I'd also like to set a public hearing for proposed law, a proposed local law #3, for 2022, for amending the city code 535-29, which would allow for the construction of poll barns and metal sided buildings in all zones. And this was the unlisted action under the seeker.

Kelly Decker:

I just need to make a correction. That'll be four.

Tim Simmons:

Local four?

Kelly Decker:

Yeah, because the public hearing that we have next week is two and three for each, so-

Tim Simmons:

Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

Kelly Decker:

So, it's four.

Tim Simmons:

So that would be local law #4, at our next meeting on March 28th.

Kelly Decker:

At 6:31 PM,

Tim Simmons:

6:31 PM.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. I'm motioned by Mr. Simmons. Do I have a second?

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Siegel.

Tim Simmons:

Also, amendment motion for the secret portion that the city council will be the lead agency for secret purposes and that this being an unlisted action. Okay.

Kelly Decker:

So amended

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Oppose? So carried.

Tim Simmons:

And our next meeting will be April 6th. That's a Wednesday going back to the normally scheduled time. Our date rather, April 6th, it will be at 6:30 PM here in the council chambers. And that's all I have.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Ms. Newhauser, recreation.

Melissa Newhauser:

Thank you, Mayor. The maintenance staff is in the process this week of reopening city parks that were closed during the winter. We will be reopening the basketball and tennis courts at Church Street as well as reopening vehicle gate at Elks-Brox Park. Staff will also be putting out swings and extra garbage cans in the parks. We ask that you please be patient, reopening will take a few days, if not a week, depending on the weather and field conditions. We will also be breaking down the sleigh riding hill at West End Beach. The Youth Center is open Monday through Friday from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. We no longer have any COVID restrictions and no longer have a waiting list. Children that want to attend must fill out our permission forms before they can participate. We have several special events and field trips already scheduled for this year. Special events include the following spring cleanup at Church Street Park on Saturday, April 9th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, volunteers are needed.

Melissa Newhauser:

Easter Candy Dash for children ages nine and under, also at Church Street Park on Saturday, April 16th at 11:00 AM. The 28th annual Delaware River 5k run at Riverside Park on Sunday May First at 9:00 AM. Registration for this race is open at [www.delawareriver5krun.com](http://www.delawareriver5krun.com). The following field trips include, taking a coach bus, the casino trip to on Saturday, May 7th, \$35 per person, 21 and older only. Trip to Cooperstown, New York and Baseball Hall of Fame on Friday, July 8th, \$65 per person. New York Mets baseball game on Friday, August 5th, \$95 per person. Please contact the recreation office for more details on our special events or to reserve your seat on any of these field trips, call us at (845) 858-4045 or email us at [recreationdirector@portjervisny.gov](mailto:recreationdirector@portjervisny.gov). The next recreation commission meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, March 16th at 7:00 PM at the youth center. That's all I have. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you very much,

Tim Simmons:

Mayor. I just wanted to add one thing I forgot. I just wanted to congratulate my nephew, Dominic Joyce, who just recently won the Florida State High School Wrestling Championship at 182 pounds, in the class 3A, that's the large school there. And Dominic did an awesome job. His dad passed away back in October and Dominic made it his mission to get to the State Finals and win for his dad. We were all there for him and so was his dad and it was an awesome thing. So, I just want to make a mention today. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Congratulations, Tim.

Tim Simmons:

Yeah.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Siegel, housing.

Stan Siegel:

Thanks again. The last housing authority meeting was Tuesday, February 22nd. The next meeting is scheduled for March 22nd, at 7:00 PM, Hillside Terrace. I'd like to announce once again, that access 23 has moved from the station on Barclay Street due to the fact that the city sold the building. It's being recorded so that when we get the YouTube channel, we'll just upload it to... The stations programming is currently not on the air. We're waiting to have the equipment reinstalled by the communications company. We apologize for any inconvenience due to this relocation. We plan to be back with better programming as we transition to a new location under the guidance and help of some previous members at the station, who plan to broadcast over cable and over the web. Hopefully we'll be able to get youth involved in the station, which is the main reason that we want to continue, and there will be more information coming soon. As they say in the business, stay tuned.

Stan Siegel:

I also like to wish our best wishes for an end of the conflict in Ukraine. Our best wishes go out to the brave and courageous people in Ukraine. They're putting up quite a battle and I hope that they're successful in their venture of holding off the Russians. We have a notification and request from the police chief for national night out against crime, which is scheduled for August the 22nd. The parade group will travel down Jersey avenue to Front Street as in previous years. Please add this approval, which I will make a motion for, to allow for the parade to freely traverse through the car show on August Second. And I'll talk about of the car show in minutes. So, I make a motion we approve that.

Denis Livingston:

Seconded.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel to approve national night out and allow a space which he's going to go through... The car show is the same night in August. I heard a second by Mr. Livingston. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Stan Siegel:

And we do have a request from Harold Butler for crew support once again. The first two, say of each month, May through September on Front Street, according to the stipulations on his request permit, and I make a motion we approve that.

Tim Simmons:

Seconded.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Siegel. Second by Mr. Simmons. And if I can just ask you to amend, making sure that motion includes leaving the space open in August.

Stan Siegel:

I agree with that. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you. That's the same thing [inaudible 00:43:18]. Yeah. And I'd like to approve the application for a farmer's market on Saturdays at the farmer's market square, from June 4th to October 29th. Make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel.

Liz Miller:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you. And that's all.

Denis Livingston:

Now I have one more thing.

Kelly Decker:

Yes, sir.

Denis Livingston:

I'd like to make a motion to approve the DPW minutes from March 7th, 2022. I don't think I did that earlier.

Kelly Decker:

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

Mike Decker:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried. Thank you. Second public comment. Mr. Curtis, please just state your full name and your address.

Mr. Curtis:

Curtis, 7 Port Jervis, New York, longtime resident. I'm disappointed and disgusted that you will even consider rehiring this building official that you got rid of on circumstances. He has harassed city employees, he's harassed taxpayers and property owners, and he has harassed me. And whoever brought it up to put him back on ought to be ashamed of themselves. I guess it pays to have a mayor for

a friend. And I'd like to see who voted for him. Who voted in favor of that? You voted in favor. Well, I'll tell you what, you won't get another vote for me, I guarantee you.

Liz Miller:

It's not everybody, I-

Kelly Decker:

It wasn't everyone Ms. Miller did not.

Mr. Curtis:

Really disgusted. That's all I have to say, and I'll leave the group.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Thank you, Joe. Mr. Randazzo.

Lisa Randazzo:

Thank you, mayor.

Kelly Decker:

What is the [inaudible 00:45:23], I have no idea.

Lisa Randazzo:

Actions taken tonight-

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. All right. Thank you.

Lisa Randazzo:

Members of the common council, Lisa Randazzo, Chestnut Street, Port Jervis, New York. I reside in the Fourth Ward as a taxpayer and formal council person. First, I'd like to take a moment to commend Ms. Miller tonight for voting no, against an action that you took. Now, whether her vote for no was based upon information she fully had or information she felt that maybe she did not, I feel that by voting no was the right way to take an action this evening. Because as a new council person, you couldn't possibly have all the information to make a decision as such. Now I realize some things have to be limited at this meeting, and I will honor that, and I will be courteous of it. However, I have to comment on some of the seasoned council members, Mr. Foster, Ms. Mann, Mr. Siegel, and Mr. Simmons. As a council person, you are seasoned members.

Lisa Randazzo:

You all, Mr. Stanley Siegel, as you smirked, as you often do [crosstalk 00:46:29] here at the podium. What I'll say is you've been here for almost 20 years, and I hope the public realizes that this is what they voted into office. But if you knew what your position was on the city charter, and according to the city charter, your job as a council person is to assist and vote things here at the meetings. And the mayor is supposed to be here to run day to day operations. Unfortunately, being that we have a weak Mayor in

this city, contrary to what Mr. Curtis had just said, Mr. Decker does not get to make the decisions. And we've heard that over and over again. Now I will say, I do have the utmost respect for some members on this council, however, I think this was a poor action taken this evening. I'm not saying that because I'm taking a side, I'm saying that because you still have to consider, and I hope you all have very well, what is going to happen and who's going to be responsible for day-to-day operations.

Lisa Randazzo:

And when you bring all of that back into this building, how it's going to be addressed and who's going to manage it. It's not going to be an easy task. As you all know, prior to this, Ms. Trovei and I had stood before this council, some of many of you, and we asked for human resources to be brought forth. What I've watched continue, during just a few short months, is how foolishly money's being spent on things that maybe you consider we need, but I have to take notice that some things we do not. In reviewing some of the council meeting minutes and many of the committee meeting minutes that are on the city's website, I have to ask, as you vote on these minutes, if you are actually reviewing them prior to voting. Many of them contain many errors, misspellings of people's names. And often some not even having the speaker's name posted. That's part of your job, and it's under the city charter. I hope you're going to take that job seriously as we move forth.

Lisa Randazzo:

And I continue to watch what I receive now, which is more complaints than I did when I was a council person here. Maybe because people feel they can speak more freely now. I have to tell you that I see this evening, while we moved forward to bring back an employee, there was no discussion or no comment. You just all voted. However, when voting for another position, I believe it was for a probationary custodian position. There was a full comment resolution, name noted, but it wasn't done the same. I would encourage you that you do that for all your motions moving forward. I would also ask, well, then you look to spend monies of our taxpayer monies, for many of you ran based upon on taxpayers first, when you ran. That you let us know where the monies are being spent from, because what I've heard this evening is we're spending monies, but nobody's saying if they're coming out of regular budget lines, contingency, or there forth.

Lisa Randazzo:

I just would like to know from moving forward, what has changed at this point in time? And I hope you all ponder this. What, if anything, has changed from before a year ago, up until now, that brought me to this decision? Other than we spent hundreds of thousands of dollars that could have been left at a minimum, had a civil hearing been held prior to this. What I will pledge to you, working with the civil service commission now, I will work to address some of those items. However, what I have to say is this evening was extremely disappointing. Thank you.

Liz Miller:

I agree.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Okay. Couple items that I have. First an appointment of ADA committee, Ms. Gina Torres, I'll be appointing her to the ADA committee immediately.

Out of contingency, I need a motion, up to \$800 and this is for computer and operations for the building department.

Stan Siegel:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Siegel. Do I have a second?

Tim Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried.

On the website, it was announced that there was a special DPW meeting, this deep special DPW committee meeting that was supposed to be held for executive session Tuesday, March 29th, 6:45 PM, is now canceled and we are not holding a special DPW meeting. So, it'll be removed from the website, but I'm making that announcement for right now. Just a reminder that next Monday here at 6:30 PM, we will have a special common council meeting for specifically, potential local law #2 and local law #3, and this is in regard to the zoning on the annexation. Again, it's next week, March 21st, 2022, at 6:30 PM. These will be two public hearings back-to-back. And that's the only business that is set for next Monday. Otherwise, if no other business-

Regis Foster:

Well, Mayor, I just want to address Ms. Randazzo's statement. We did talk in executive session and our vote was based on legal. So, I just want to make that clear for the record. Thank you.

Stan Siegel:

I also would like to tell Ms. Randazzo that I do not smirk. I smile when I sit here because I enjoy this job. And as Regis said, we made a decision based on our legal counsel, our labor attorney, based on the fact that you're innocent until you're proven guilty in America. And you talk about money, we spent over \$180,000 more than we needed to spend for that position. So, I think that we made the right decision. And I sit here with a good group, a good team, and I'm proud of them all. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Anybody else. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Denis Livingston:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Livingston. Do I have a second?

Regis Foster:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? So carried. Thank you. Have a goodnight.

Respectfully,  
Laura Quick

City Clerk-Treasurer Treasurer