

Special Meeting - City of Port Jervis Common Council:

A special meeting of the City of Port Jervis Common Council was held in the Council Chambers at 20 Hammond Street, Port Jervis, New York on Friday August 16th, at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance-

Jason Vicchiariello	1st Ward	Present
Colin O'Connell	1st Ward	Absent
Misty Fuller	2nd Ward	Present
Maria Mann	2nd Ward	Present
Jeffrey Rhoades	3rd Ward	Present
Gerald Oney, Jr.	3rd Ward	Absent
Jacqueline Dennison	4th Ward	Absent
Stanley Siegel	4th Ward	Arrived after Pledge
Michael Hockenberry	Councilman-At-Large	Present
Dominic Cicalese	Mayor	Present

Also present:

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Bobbie Jo Muller and City Assessor, Teresa Spradling

The meeting opened at 1:00 pm by Mayor Cicalese.

Pledge of Allegiance- Mayor Cicalese led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor -

- The purpose of the meeting is for consideration and approval to hire a Tax Certiorari Attorney.

Teresa Spradling - Assessor

- The City was served by Orange and Rockland Utilities on July 31st, 2024, contesting their assessment. They are trying to get a reduction in their assessment from \$14,318,000 down to \$7,427,416. If we can get this settled by the end of January 2025, we would not have to pay money back. Teresa recommended the firm of Naughton & Torre to represent the City. She also noted that O&R also pays a special franchise tax and that amount also went up. That amount would have to be disputed against the State.

Mayor -

- Asked for a Motion to retain Naughton & Torre for \$190.00 per hour for legal services in connection with this tax certiorari matter. Motion by M. Hockenberry, second by M. Fuller.
AYE: 6 ABSENT: 3 (O'Connell, Oney, Jr., Dennison) NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

M. Hockenberry - Councilman-At-Large

- Motion to pay General Contractor for Lead Service Line Replacement. Ground Control Excavating's balance due for Phase #1 & #2 is \$217,206.13 to close out the grant, second by J. Rhoades.
AYE: 6 ABSENT: 3 (O'Connell, Oney, Jr., Dennison) NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Mayor -

- Asked for a Motion to pay Colliers Engineering & Design the \$10,000 retainer to design the Railroad Crossing. Motion by M. Hockenberry, second by S. Siegel.
AYE: 6 ABSENT: 3 (O'Connell, Oney, Jr., Dennison) NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

He has spoken with the Senator, and he is in favor of and agrees with the need for this Railroad Crossing. He asked that we keep him up to date with the project and he will assist in any way that he can.

M. Fuller - Finance

- Advised that the issue with Spectrum has not been resolved. She stated that The City has received enough PEG Fees to offset the amounts paid and currently due. Once the account is current, we can split the account to separate the Access 23 account going forward.
- S. Siegel insists that there should not be any charges for the cable or fiber for Access 23 and does not feel we should pay the bill. He thinks we should let them turn it off because we should not be getting charged.
- Motion by M. Fuller to pay the Spectrum invoice, second by J. Vicchiariello.

AYE: 5 ABSENT: 3 (O'Connell, Oney, Jr., Dennison) NAYS: 1 (Siegel) ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

1:12 pm - Motion to adjourn by J. Rhoades, second J. Vicchiariello - all in favor.

Respectfully,
Bobbie Jo Muller
Deputy City Clerk Treasurer

Notice of Special Council Meeting

Please be advised that the Common Council of the City of Port Jervis will conduct a special meeting at 1:00 pm on Friday, August 16, 2024 in the Council Room at City Hall, 20 Hammond Street, Port Jervis NY

By order of Mayor Dominic Cicalese.

This meeting is for the purpose of consideration and approval to hire a Tax Certiorari Attorney and any other item of business as deemed necessary for immediate action.

The City of Port Jervis will make every effort to assure that the meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone requiring special assistance and/or reasonable accommodations should contact the Clerk-Treasurer's Office.

**Posted by the Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer
Bobbie Jo Muller**

On this date of August 15, 2024



**NAUGHTON
& TORRE** LLP
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS
AT LAW

KELLY M. NAUGHTON*
ASHLEY N. TORRE**
ROBERT M. MIELE**

* Admitted in New York & Massachusetts
** Admitted in New York & New Jersey

August 12, 2024

Hon. Dominic M. Cicalese, Mayor
Port Jervis City Hall
20 Hammond Street
Port Jervis, New York 12771

Re: 2024 Legal Services for City of Port Jervis

Dear Mayor Cicalese:

This letter is to confirm that the City of Port Jervis ("City") has retained the law firm of Naughton & Torre, LLP ("Firm") effective August 12, 2024 to provide legal services to the City in connection with tax certiorari matters, with an hourly rate of \$190.00 per hour for legal services.

In accordance with Court Rules, this engagement letter also advises you that, when applicable, you may have a right to arbitrate any attorney fee dispute in accordance with 22 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 137.

Please indicate your agreement to these terms by your signature below.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide legal services to the City of Port Jervis.

Very truly yours,


Kelly M. Naughton

By: 

Dominic M. Cicalese, Mayor