

Common Council Meeting January 25, 2021

Meeting conducted via Zoom #405 793 5811

Attendance: All members of the Common Council were present. Also, in attendance Robin Waizenegger, City Clerk Treasurer, William Frank, Corporation Counsel and Stephanie Tunic Deputy Corporation Counsel.

Kelly Decker:

Monday, January 25, 2021, it is 6:30 PM. I'll call the meeting of the Port Jervis Common Council to order, I have a flag behind me, please stand for pledge.

All:

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. God bless America.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, we got Dominic coming on.

William Frank:

If I may.

Kelly Decker:

Yes, sir.

William Frank:

I know it's not a Port Jervis police officer, but if I may, we lost a sergeant in the Town of Walkkill to COVID-19 complications the other day. His name was Barry Weisman. He was a long-standing police officer who retired as a sergeant. He retired then he came back on a part time basis, the last several years, and he succumbed to the illness the other day. So I normally don't do this. But if I may ask for a moment of silence for Sergeant Weisman, please.

Kelly Decker:

Absolutely. (silence)

William Frank:

Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. We'll do a roll call before we go into Executive Session. Robin?

Robin Waizenegger:

Robin Waizenegger, City Clerk Treasurer.

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Kelly Decker:

Mayor, Kelly Decker present. Gerald?

Gerald Oney:

Can you hear me?

Kelly Decker:

Yeah.

Gerald Oney:

Oh, good. Is it my turn?

Kelly Decker:

Yes.

Gerald Oney:

That froze just as you started talking. Gerald Oney, Councilman Third Ward.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Kristin?

Kristin Trovei:

Kristin Trovei, Third Ward Councilman.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Tim?

Tim Simmons:

Tim Simmons, Councilman, Fourth Ward present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Regis?

Regis Foster:

Regis Foster, Councilman First Ward.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Will?

Will Frank:

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Will Frank, Corporation Counsel, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Stan?

Stan Siegel:

Stan Siegel, Fourth Ward Councilman, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Maria?

Maria Mann:

Maria Mann, Second Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Lisa?

Lisa Randazzo:

Lisa Randazzo, Councilwoman at large, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Stephanie?

Stephanie Tunic:

Stephanie Tunic, Deputy Corporation Counsel, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Dominic?

Dominic Santini:

Dominic Santini, First Ward Councilman, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. And Chandler?

Chandler Campbell:

Chandler Campbell, Second Ward Council, present.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. I'll entertain a motion to go into Executive Session. I do have one more item and that's a personnel matter. Just to add on to our executive session. What's your pleasure?

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Chandler Campbell:

I'll move.

Kelly Decker:

Who was that? I'm sorry. Oh, Ms. Randazzo, second?

Dominic Santini:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Santini. Discussion, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Okay.

Meeting adjourned to executive session 6:36 pm.

Meeting Reconvened at 7:08 pm

I'm going to start the recording. Everybody could just mute their mics unless they're talking, as I got background noise.

Dominic Santini:

Hit the wrong button.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, we have everybody in from the waiting room. We're recording and Facebook Live is on. I will entertain a motion to return from executive session.

Lisa Randazzo:

I move.

Kelly Decker:

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

Timothy Simmons:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

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Second by Mr. Simmons. Discussion, all in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Just for the people on Facebook and the people that have joined us here online. We opened the meeting with the pledge, we will now move into our public hearing. We have actually two public hearings, one on local law number one of 2021 that is zoning and planning application forms. Mr. Santini you want me to throw it your way?

Dominic Santini:

Sure. Okay. First of all, I would like to make a motion to open up public hearing for local law number one of 2021.

Kelly Decker:

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

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Siegel, discussion, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So Carried.

Dominic Santini:

Real quick, this local law just amends the number of plans and copies, the zoning and planning boards require up to their discretion and allowing digital copies, it's going to be better for everyone in long run. My opinion, less paper. That's about it.

Kelly Decker:

Very good. Anybody from the Council have any comments?

Regis Foster:

Yes, Mayor I haven't been directly involved with the zoning, the planning for a number of years. I think this is definitely a good move. It's going to eliminate a lot of unnecessary paperwork, I'm going to make things a lot easier streamline things and generally, grant a better access to the storage of the records and other things along that line. So I definitely agree it would be a real good move for both zoning and the planning. Thank you.

Dominic Santini:

It's also less of a burden on the people applying to0, they don't have to get as many copies.

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Regis Foster:

Right.

Kelly Decker:

I'm just going to look, anybody else from the council? I do not see anybody from the public in here. I'm just going to ask, anybody from the public have any comments? Not hearing any. I'll entertain a motion to close the public hearing at 7:09.

Tim Simmons:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Simmons, Do I have a second?

Dominic Santini:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Santini. Discussion, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

So carried. The next is proposed local law number two of 2021. This is change of zoning. I will entertain a motion to open the public hearing.

Dominic Santini:

So moved.

Kristin Trovei:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Santini. Second by Miss Trovei. Discussion, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Okay. Mr. Santini?

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Dominic Santini:

Basically, it's a change in zoning line. There are houses on Fowler Street that were in the central business district, and they're now changed to the... what's MNU, I can remember.

Kelly Decker:

It's Mixed neighbor use.

Dominic Santini:

Mixed neighbor use, that's right. Sorry, my computer is not helping me out at this moment. And that's about it. It looks 20 or so properties that are involved on Fowler, except for two that are on the corner on Ball. And this will allow different use in those, it confines more than what uses being allowed in that area at this point what's being used.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Is anybody from the Council have any comments?

Regis Foster:

I just like to say I think it makes sense to do what we're trying to do here.

Kelly Decker:

Anyone else?

Regis Foster:

Absolutely. As I said before, having been directly involved with zoning and planning. Some of the applications that came before us would no longer be necessary. And basically, they were necessary because of an oversight or whatever it was that drew that line and it's going to make things much easier, both for the boards and for people who would have to make application.

Will Frank:

Were each of the property owners directly notified of this?

Kelly Decker:

Robin, do you know that? Okay, I don't think she knows that or not.

Robin Waizenegger:

I do not know. I did not do any notifications.

Kelly Decker:

Dominic, do you know?

Dominic Santini:

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I thought this was sent to the county?

Robin Waizenegger:

It was sent to the county for their review.

Will Frank:

It was sent to the county but I'm asking if each of the owners of these 20-21 parcels, if they were directly notified that the city is considering changing their zone?

Kelly Decker:

So I myself personally don't know if they were or not. However, this would be more advantageous for them because they have a lot more capabilities going into the mixed use than they do from the central business district.

Will Frank:

Well, my opinion is since we have not heard that from the County and Council is not going to be able to adopt it tonight anyway, because we do not have a response from the County, I think it would be beneficial at the very least, send a notification to each property owner, it's a quick form letter, which we can get out and keep it open, continue the public hearing until the next meeting. And hopefully by then, Steph, I believe this was sent to the county on what? January 12th?

Stephanie Tunic:

January 12th it was referred to Orange County planning, by email and to the planning board secretary for the City.

Kelly Decker:

And just so you know, at the planning board, and Mr. Simmons was there as well, the planning board did approve this, zoning board did not have a meeting, but the planning board did and they had no issues with them.

William Frank:

Okay. Well, that being the case, the county has 30 days from notification to get back to the city, I would suggest that just for record keeping purposes and notification purposes, we send a form letter to the owner, each of these properties, letting them know, letting them have the opportunity to submit written comments before the next meeting, or appear at the next meeting and hold the public hearing open until then, that point hopefully, we'll have a response from the county and close the public hearing and vote on this after quick SEQR short form EAF.

Kelly Decker:

So Mr. Frank, could I request that you draft that letter and then send it to myself and to Jim Farr. And we'll have the building department send out those 21 letters.

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Will Frank:

Yes.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you.

Dominic Santini:

Okay, so we leave, the public hearing open. So, we can get response back from panel and these parcels.

Kelly Decker:

Yes, sir. Okay.

Dominick Santini:

Do you want to continue the public hearing to the next meeting or the one after that?

Kelly Decker:

So the next meeting is February 8th I believe.

Will Frank:

The 22nd.

Kelly Decker:

So it's going to have to be the 22nd.

Dominic Santini:

22nd.

William Frank:

I would suggest that the public hearing be held open till the 22nd, then there'll be ample time to get everything out done. Even if we haven't heard back from the County by then in 30 days, the Council can act.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, so Mr. Santini, you're making a motion to keep the public hearing open till February 22nd?

Dominic Santini:

Yes.

Kelly Decker:

Do I have a second?

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Regis Foster:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second, Mr. Foster. Discussion, all in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried, thank you.

Jess:

[inaudible 00:13:10].

Kelly Decker:

Jess, can I ask you to mute your mic, please? Okay, we're up to a public comment. Is there anyone from the public that would like to speak on any matter?

Stan Siegel:

I have a letter that was probably brought to me. That I would like to read after the public.

Kelly Decker:

I don't have any public... Oh, hold on a minute. I got somebody coming in right now. Again, call for public comment. Is anybody from the public like to speak on any matter? Okay, not hearing any Mr. Siegel. Go ahead.

Stan Siegel:

I have a letter that was personally brought to me yesterday dated 24 January 2021. Stan, now he says, "Please read the below statement at the upcoming city council meeting on the 25th." But he doesn't want his name used unless I have to use it in order to read it. And that's normal procedure, right?

Kelly Decker:

Correct.

Stan Siegel:

Okay. So, I will read it at the end. Information is being sought regarding the following vehicle, especially witnesses to menacing driving behavior, especially a video footage is available. In unadorned standard white van in good condition, being driven down East Main Street, from the Neversink River Bridge to Jersey Avenue, down Jersey Avenue away from East Main Street or two or from the above roadways around 4:30 PM, Saturday the 16th of January 2021.

Anyone with any information that could help ID the van or the driver or anyone who witnessed dangerous behavior, please contact 845-856-3748. Again, that's 845-856-3748 and it's signed Peter Grech. And I will forward this to the city for inclusion in the records, Robin.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Mr. Conklin, can you mute your mic, please? Is there any other public comment? Not hearing any. We will go to the approval of the minutes of the January 11, 2021 meeting. What's your pleasure?

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Stan Siegel:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Siegel, seconded by Mr. Foster discussion, all in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. Okay. We have no Executive Session material to address. So we will move on to regular business Mr. Foster, police, ADA.

Regis Foster:

Thank you, Mayor. The police committee met this past Thursday. The highlights that were discussed was that the Port Jervis Police Department participated in the annual homeless point in time counting partnering with Honor emergency housing group, Vet to Vet, and the interfaith council warming station to provide outreach services to individuals who are homeless in our community. With the cold weather upon us, we have to be extra vigilant to help and provide services to our homeless residents.

So if you know of anyone in need of shelter, services can be obtained by dialing 311 to the Orange County crisis call or through services offered by the interfaith council overnight warming station located St. Peter's Lutheran Church at 31 West Main Street. A daytime warming center is open at the Salvation Army at 99 Ball Street between the hours of 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. With meals being served from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The department is preparing the 2020 annual report and have released the part one crime consisting of violent and serious property crimes is decreased by 7.4%.

From 2019 representing a historic low in our community's crime rates since 1980. In addition, 2020's record low Part One crime rate represents a 65 and a half percent decrease in violent and serious property crime since the City's peak in 1996. Also discussed was the juvenile aid bureau is launching a coloring with a cop initiative providing local preschools, youth groups and elementary schools classes the opportunity to invite an officer into the classroom of course virtually to read a short story and color a picture with students using the police department's coloring book, which was created by the Port Jervis high school art department.

So if you're interested in hosting this program for your youth organization, please contact youth detective Peter Washalski at 845-858-4073 or you can email them at peterwashalski that's P-E-T-E-R, W-A-S-H-A-L-S-K-I @portjervisny.gov. The Port Jervis Police Department has been selected with four other law enforcement agencies in Orange County, City of Middletown police department, the Town of Mount Hope Police Department, Town of Crawford Police Department and the Village of Maybrook Police Department by the Orange County District Attorney's Office to participate in a pilot arrest diversion program called hope not handcuffs.

Orange County Mental Health and the Police Chiefs Association of Orange County will provide increased opportunities for substance abuse treatment through diversion of low-level drug related offenses to substance abuse treatment and mental health services. The goal of this program is to equip officers with the effective problem solving resources to provide the individuals who commit low level offenses related to substance abuse that are in need of treatment.

The next police committee meeting we will be meeting next month, Thursday, February 18. At 6:00 PM, probably on Zoom. The ADA has not met yet. Our next meeting is going to be on March 1st or I should say February 1st at 6:30, probably on Zoom. And that is it. Mayor. Thank you.

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Kelly Decker:

Sorry about that, I muted myself. Mr. Santini? Code. Thank you, Mr. Foster.

Dominic Santini:

Thank you, Code has not met since our last council meeting. The next Code meeting will be February 3rd at 6:00 PM via Zoom. I'd also like to make a motion to pass local law number one of 2021, amendments to chapter 535, article 15.

Kelly Decker:

Have a motion by Mr. Santini, to pass proposed local law number one of 2021. Do I have a second Mr. Siegel? Discussion, all in favor? Chorus of Ayes. Opposed?

Chandler Campbell:

Hold on.

Dominic Santini:

Was that sent to the county?

Kelly Decker:

I don't believe so, this was an electronic copy.

Stephanie Tunic:

No, this was not to the county because it doesn't affect any particular under 239. It does affect the zoning code, but it's not like within 500 feet of a county road or the other requirements that requires being sent.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Was there any other questions? All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

Dominic Santini:

And that's all I have. Thank you, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Miss Campbell recreation.

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Chandler Campbell:

Thank you, Mayor. The rec commission respectfully request to approve the approval to hire Miss Tanya Brace-Revak as our recreation specialist, busy body instructor. If approved, this position will start on February 27th. Busy bodies is an arts and crafts program for boys and girls in the grades of K-2 and will run from February 27th to March the 27th. This position is budgeted for.

Kelly Decker:

So I have a motion by Miss Campbell. Do I have a second?

Lisa Randazzo:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Miss Randazzo. Discussion, all in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Chandler Campbell:

Thank you. The Youth Center rec room is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday between 3:00 to 6:00. The youth center is open on Wednesdays for Family Fun only. This is the rec room hours and they're reserved for the families only. You can sign up through our office or by emailing us. Church Street basketball and tennis courts are closed for the season. They will reopen in the spring, the sleigh riding hill at West End beach is set up.

Of course, all we need now is some snow. Please follow the rules and remember no skiing or snowboards are permitted. The rec department follows all COVID rules and regulations. And our next rec meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 6:00 PM. At the youth center or by Zoom. And that's all I have Mayor, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you very much.

Timothy Simmons:

Mayor, could I add before we move on that we held the Polar Plunge along with the help of the rec department. And I just wanted to give a kudos to Mr. Faggione, he does an awesome job helping us with that. Wayne Addy and his crew too, they did an exceptional job getting the beach ready. And all of our sponsors that helped us out and the participants as well. We had a really good turnout, people really enjoyed themselves and we socially distanced. And it was a good event. I also want to thank Chief Cicalese, Chief Brown and Chief Fuller from the fire department for their support, to the Special Operations squad and Miss Mann for her help with getting our stuff together.

And especially all the guys from the special ops team that come out to do this but are there day and night, 365 days a year whenever anybody calls and needs assistance. They're always right there. So it was a great event. We look forward to doing it again next year and just want to thank everybody that sponsored us and I hope the people Port Jervis will patronize those sponsors. And Thank you Mayor.

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Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Miss Mann, tourism, IDA.

Maria Mann:

Thank you Mayor. The IDA has not met since their last meeting due to lack of agenda items. The committee is looking for board members, anyone interested, please contact the City Clerk's or Mayor's office. The next scheduled IDA meeting is Monday, February 15th at 6:00 PM pending agenda items as well. Tourism last met via Zoom on January 13, they discussed the holiday lighting contest with many prizes, the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the course of the parade. Consideration for the Grand Marshal was also discussed.

Social distancing can be maintained because it is an outside activity. Fall foliage will be held on September 26th or November 28th pending COVID. And the next one is a meeting be held on Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00 PM. I'm assuming Mayor it will be by Zoom again.

Kelly Decker:

So I had that under my comments. So, I know a few of you know that as of right now, the Governor has not extended his executive order. Is that correct? Mr. Frank?

Will Frank:

All true, Mr. Mayor, but he usually does it a day or so before the expiration of the current one, I believe the current one expires on the 27th. So I would expect an extension tomorrow.

Kelly Decker:

So obviously if that extension happens, then yes, we will continue to stay virtual. As you guys know when I send you the numbers each week, our numbers here are continuing to go up and not down.

Maria Mann:

Okay, so it's pending.

Kelly Decker:

Yes.

Maria Mann:

So that would be on again, February 10th at 7:00 PM whether on Zoom or the council chambers. And that's all that I have. Thank you Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Well, Mr. Oney, DPW.

Gerald Oney:

Thank you, Mayor. Garbage and recycling will be on its normal schedule for the next two weeks. Christmas tree collection is done for the season. If for some reason you still have a Christmas tree, you

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could call the DPW office at 858-4001 and we will make arrangements to get that away for you. Hopefully, there are no more left. And the next DPW meeting will be Monday, February 1st, Zoom at 6:00 PM. That's it, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. We go back for a minute. Was there supposed to be or did I miss?

Gerald Oney:

I'll just do it during my time.

Kelly Decker:

You know what I'm talking about these separately permit and so on?

Gerald Oney:

Yeah, I'll do it during my time.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. Thank you. Miss Trovei, Finance, CDA.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you. CDA hasn't met since the last meeting. We will meet potentially remotely Wednesday, January 27th at 7:00 PM. I do have a resolution regarding a public hearing. Whereas, the City of Port Jervis is interested in applying to New York State Home and Community Renewal Housing Trust Fund Corporation, Office of Community Renewal for one or more Community Development Block Grant activities, including public infrastructure, public facilities and or community planning.

And whereas, this year's grant application is due no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, March 5th, 2021. Whereas, citizen participation through a public hearing set by resolution is required to solicit thoughts and suggestions from the public as required for the Forest Service. Common Council sets the public hearing on February 8th 2021 at 6:30 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, make that a motion?

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Trovei, second, by Mr. Oney? Discussion, all in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried, thank you.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you. Finance met last Wednesday. Some items discussed include the 4th quarter sales tax preliminary numbers that were released from the county. Sales tax numbers ended fairly healthy considering all that happened in 2020. However, January 2021 numbers are currently down 7%. So it's all over the place right now. We discussed the 20% of state aid that was withheld in 2020. Some of it is to be returned at some point in the first quarter of 2021.

However, no solid information on the aid that is to be withheld in 2021 was released, but there's going to be kept permanent, etc. So, the City has prepared for the reduction in state aid. And we will continue

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to monitor the situation as the year continues and New York State figures out its budget and federal government figures out what they're doing. Again, also all up in the air. As discussed during the 2021 budget process, departments had submitted items that were removed from the budget to potentially be put back in the budget if and when funds are available.

And if or when the council chooses to do so. Nothing has been added or changed yet. It was just a list of things to be done. If able, if we wanted to. We discussed the capital note and serial bond. Department heads will be asked to submit requests for capital note and serial bond with the understanding that the capital note may not occur and at the serial bond might be limited to fund the remainder of the tri state bridge project. And as there is no retiring debt until 2024. The serial bond will have an impact on future budgets.

We discussed cash flow and it was very tight. And for the first time since 2017, we'll need to do a revenue anticipation note to get us through financially until the tax collection begins in the spring. This year's note will be for \$1 million. Insurance renewals for fire and city are occurring this year. And fire renewal has been submitted and city renewal be submitted shortly. We discussed tourism funds and upcoming events. Tourism Board currently has about \$3200 in their account, we discussed tourism events and that while we should plan to have them, we need to be mindful of the fact that the Coronavirus is still an issue.

Some events might need to be canceled. So they are advised to budget very cautiously and appropriately with that in mind. We discussed the sewer fee issue. And we also discussed the hotel tax, there's currently no hotel tax being proposed. But we are going to start the groundwork of logistics, implementation clerical work, etc. of that if the council chooses to implement a hotel tax so that we're ready to do so.

And we have the groundwork in place. And we discussed that if a hotel tax does occur, what we would be doing with the funds generated from that and there was talk of 50% going to general fund and 50% going to another funds such as tourism, preservation, special projects, something along the lines of that. Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 17th at 6:00 PM and that was finance. We do have bills to pay from the general fund \$263,225.03, from the water fund \$59,979.06, from the sewer fund \$10,867.39, capital funds \$400, trust and agency \$2754, for a total of \$337,228.08.

So larger items from the general water and sewer funds. New York State Employees health insurance \$224,984.77, Orange & Rockland, \$42,308.93. Pitney Bowes reserve account \$2,381.85. CSEA Employee Benefit fund \$6,336.96 and from the capital fund, Farr engineering \$400. I make a motion to approve the bills.

Kelly Decker:

Have a motion from Miss Trovei. I have a second by Mr. Randazzo. Discussion, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Kristin Trovei:

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Thank you. I also have the resolution regarding the revenue anticipation note. Whereas, the City of Port Jervis recognizes the need to make payments of obligations pursuant to budgeted expenses for 2021. Whereas, the City of Port Jervis recognizes the need to borrow funds at an amount not to exceed \$1 million for the purpose of providing funds in anticipation of receipt of funds from general fund revenues and real estate taxes received in April 2021.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Common Council, approves the issuance of a revenue anticipation note, to be issued pursuant to Section 25 and 39 of the local finance law, constituting chapter 33-A. This will be detailed in an extract of minutes by bond counsel, make that a motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Miss Trovei. Second by Mr. Oney, this is for a revenue anticipation note discussion. All in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. And Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Kristin Trovei:

Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Mr. Simmons planning and zoning.

Tim Simmons:

Thank you, Mayor. Zoning board, which was to meet on Tuesday, February 2nd, did not have any business before so they did not hold a meeting. Their next meeting will be... I'm sorry, it was January 5th, they were supposed have it. Their next meeting will be Tuesday, February 2nd, and most likely through Zoom. The planning board did meet on January 19th via Zoom. They entertained a pre-submission for a new urgent care facility on the corner of Orchard and Fowler street next to the present office of Dr. Little, represented the applicant, which is his brother-in-law, the husband of Dr. Little and they want to build an urgent care center there.

Tim Simmons:

So they set a public hearing for that for Tuesday, February 16th, which again will probably be held via Zoom. And that's all I have. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Mr. Siegel, fire and emergency management.

Stan Siegel:

Thank you, Mayor. The January fire and emergency management meeting was held on Tuesday, January 19th. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 15th at 6:30 PM. And at that meeting, there'll be the end of the year recap. There's no correspondence from the secretary. I'd like to congratulate the Danes family. There's a story on Facebook and in the first responder magazine newspaper about the five generations of Danes in the Port Jervis fire department.

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From Mr. Dane who joined in 1879 to Hank and Keegan, who are currently members of engine four, the five generations are believed to be the longest serving in the fortress fire Department. There are several families to have four generations. And if you have not contacted Sharon, previously, if you have four generations or more, please contact her so that it can be included in the story about the dedication of firefighter families.

Housing Authority last met on December... I'm sorry, the last meeting of the Housing Authority was scheduled to meet on December 22nd, but it was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 7:00 PM. And a peer support meeting for this month has been rescheduled to Monday, February 15th at 6:00 PM due to staff availability to participate. Please keep the staff, guests, volunteers and ongoing work of the warming station in your prayer as we continue throughout the season. And that's all I have. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, sir. Lisa Randazzo?

Lisa Randazzo:

I don't have anything. Thank you, Mayor.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. We open up back to public comment. Is there anybody from the public that would like to say anything? Or we discussed tonight. Not hearing any I have a really short list. I just want to let you know that obviously, the virtual meetings may continue if that executive order comes down. And we'll keep an eye on our COVID stats. If they start to fall too, perhaps we'll be able to get back into some partial normalcy and into meetings that was also mentioned by Miss Mann in regards to our events, we are going to move forward and plan all events.

However, should there be issues with COVID issues in the city. If we cannot socially distance we will cancel the event. That being said, I have an application in here for the third annual St. Patrick's Day parade and Barney blast, this will change a little bit, the lineup would be just on Canal Street just like the Christmas parade, go down Orange, travel down Pike Street and then go over the underpass and to the Erie depot. What we could do there as well is and I will talk to our DPW director is to make some social distancing markings. So first, we have the application for March 7th, 2021. From 3:00 to 5:00 PM for our duration for the third annual St. Patrick's Day parade and Barney blast. Your pleasure? Mr. Simmons, do I have a second? Second by Mr. Siegel. Discussion?

Lisa Randazzo:

I just had a question. Is there planning to be a large gathering downtown as in past years? Or is it just a parade that's going to be going through town, so we won't be encouraging massive groups of gathering? I mean, I'm all for parades and events and stuff. I'm just wondering how we're going to be encouraging and maintaining social distancing, should COVID restrictions still be in place? Because I did hear some complaints about event that we had this past weekend, I wasn't at the event. So I have no idea if the complaints and concerns were valid or not, I'm just relaying that I did hear some concerns. So, I'm just wondering what exactly the precautions are going to be in case someone asks me because I don't know.

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Kelly Decker:

So the application reads as it would be a normal event as like in every other year. However, in lieu of canceling the event, tourism will meet in February, we will probably have that discussion about alterations, so that we can maintain that social distancing. And there wouldn't be for a better sense of a term of hanging out at the event, perhaps a stop in the parade. So that the bagpipers which comes next will perform and then move on. And what I was saying there is like they do with the other events where they tape out where the booths go, tape out areas for people to pod along the parade route. So I will bring that up at the tourism meeting.

Lisa Randazzo:

Mayor, ultimately, is this going to come back to the council prior to the event, like some of the other things that we've discussed? Or how is that going to work in regards to determining what the levels are within the city?

Kelly Decker:

So, I would judge that by what we get from the county, obviously, if the numbers are going up, I would just tell them, and you'll see in this contract that we re-wrote with Hudson Valley Regional Police Pipes and Drums, that it can be an automatic cancel if the numbers are going up, we're just going to cancel it. So more than likely not come back to the council, and be more weighted on me to say if we can have the event or not, unless you want it to come back at the last meeting. Which the meeting before that would be February 22nd, two weeks before the event.

Lisa Randazzo:

I'm just more concerned with typically what we've been doing with consensus of the one we were going to have Santa come through or just anything that we've had everyone has a little, that there's some thought put into where we're at, at that time only because right now, I will tell you, I'm in Westchester County most of the time, but when it comes to watching COVID numbers, there are spikes, and there are still yellow zones. And so we just need to-

Kelly Decker:

If it were today, I would say we wouldn't have it.

Lisa Randazzo:

Okay.

Kelly Decker:

Obviously, we have to look at those numbers and the trend that we have happening and the ability to do the social distancing.

Lisa Randazzo:

Okay. Thank you.

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Kelly Decker:

Any other questions?

Stan Siegel:

So the good news is, if we can believe it or not, there was a thing on the news today about Wuhan is almost back to normal. If that is real news, then we should probably hope that we'll catch up to that new normal as well. And we could do these events. The fire department is looking to have a parade and hopefully we'll have a parade. But again, that's dependent on where we are. So, let us all hope that we get past this and we can continue to have the things that make Port Jervis a great place to be.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you. Anyone else? Not hearing anyone. All in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

The second piece to that is as was mentioned before, the Tourism Board currently has \$3,225.66 balance available to them. The bag pipers from Hudson Valley has reduced their amount to \$1500, I believe that's \$500 less than what it was last year.

Kelly Decker:

I'm sorry.

Maria Mann:

Excuse me, 1000 less.

Kelly Decker:

\$1000. I'm sorry, Miss Waizenegger can I hear yes?

Robin Waizenegger:

Yes, on that thing for the parade. You did not officially make a motion and have a second.

Will Frank:

Yeah, he did.

Kelly Decker:

Yeah, I have a motion by Mr. Simmons a second by Mr. Siegel.

Stan Siegel:

Yes.

Robin Waizenegger:

Okay, I've got it. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

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So, it's \$1,000 less than last year. I also had a modification, the contract went out to everybody when I sent out the weekly report. This modification calls for in the event that the parade is canceled by the organization, which is us, due to an uprising of COVID cases, organization is not liable to the Hudson Valley Regional Police bag pipes and drums. So if we need to cancel we will not be out that money. So what is your pleasure?

Tim Simmons:

I'll move.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Simmons, second by Mr. Siegel. Discussion? All in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried, thank you.

Just a reminder, let me say that our police reform and reinvention committee has met four times, they went through, on Friday, the draft of the plan for the City. This week, probably towards the end of this week, they'll be receiving a copy that could be the final copy unless there's any changes that need to be made. As of right now, there are no meetings needed to be scheduled with the committee.

They were good with the draft. Once the proposed final report is presented to them, if there's any major changes, we will schedule a meeting otherwise, we could possibly be looking at February 8 for receiving on the council's behalf of the City of Port Jervis Police Reform and Reinvention... what is it? Policy that will be sent to the City. And we'll probably go one more council meeting as there has to be public input as well. So just know that that's coming. As soon as I can make that available to you, I will and I will also post it on the website, I have kept the website up to date. Speaking of our website, we are operating both our.org and our.gov.

And they are two separate websites. But the .gov will come up and go down as we're making some needed adjustments to it. But it has been turned over to the city the .gov. And it's a different look than what our original was. The intention is for the next couple months, we'll keep both running simultaneously, then what we'll do is we'll switch over the .gov will remain the .gov. but it also masks on the .org until we phase the .org out probably within the year.

And the last thing that I have is on Wednesday. From here, I will be doing for the very first time a virtual State of the City address. That is on Wednesday. Remember is it 6:00? 6:00 I think right? Nobody knows.

Tim Simmons:

Yes.

Kelly Decker:

6:00, I just didn't write the time down. I think it's 6:00, I just wasn't sure. Yes.

Tim Simmons:

You're right.

Kelly Decker:

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The address will be on this Zoom and also be live on Facebook. But that'll be Wednesday at 6:00 PM. I promise not to take about 15 minutes or 20 minutes of your time. But that being said is there any other-

Stan Siegel:

Did you do the resolution for the-

Kristin Trovei:

Fire? I have that. I didn't know if Stan reading it-

Stan Siegel:

I did not.

Kristin Trovei:

The Mayor was reading it. But I have it so I can read it.

Kelly Decker:

And have it printed and I sent it to Stan's because of fire but all right go ahead Kristin. Thank you.

Kristin Trovei:

This is the resolution regarding a grant for the fire department. Whereas, the City of Port Jervis's fire departments personal protection equipment cascade filling system is reaching its end of useful life. And whereas the replacement of the equipment is expected to cost an estimated \$601,284.84.

The assistance to firefighter grant program, funding numbered EHS-20-GPD-044-00-98 opened on January 4th, 2021. And whereas, the city of Port Jervis is an eligible applicant with the understanding that a 5% cash match totaling an estimated \$30,082 is required. And whereas the performance period is two years from the date of award, with possible extension, and now therefore be it resolved that the Common Council of the City of Port Jervis hereby approves the submission of said grant application, no later than February 12th, 2021 at 5:00 PM. And that the Mayor or his designee is authorized to execute any and all documents in connection with the application. I'll make that motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mrs. Trovei. Second? Second by Mr. Siegel. Discussion? All in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? So carried. Sorry, that also came in at the last hour as well. Some of these grant deadlines just came up. So that's why they came by so fast. Is that what you had for me, Mr. Frank?

Will Frank:

All of it sir.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. Anybody else? Go to the order. Okay, not hearing any, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Regis Foster:

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So, moved.

Kristin Trovei:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Foster, seconded by Ms. Trovei. Discussion? All in favor? *Chorus of Ayes*. Opposed? *Silence* So carried. End of the meeting, 7:55. Have a great night everybody.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 pm , Next Meeting February 8th, 2021 via Zoom.

Robin Waizenegger, City Clerk Treasurer