

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, 20 Hammond Street, Port Jervis, New York on Tuesday March 8, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance-

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

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

Meeting opened at 7:30 pm by Mayor Decker.

Pledge of Allegiance-

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

Mayor:

Officer's Law Article 7, Section 105F, Police Administration Contract and/or Retirement for the Chief and Lieutenant, and any other items and businesses deemed necessary for immediate action. Before we go into executive session, I'm going to read a resolution for the Hazardous Mitigation Resolution task, but first, I'll open the floor to public comment. Just when you do, please come up, state your name and your position, what you do, and whatever you'd like to say.

Tom Faggione:

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Thank you, City Counsel. My name is Tom Faggione, Orange County Legislator, proud to represent the City of Port Jervis, the Town of Deerpark, and the Town of Mount Hope.

Tom Faggione:

Honorable Mayor and members of the city council, Chief William Warden is a valuable part of the Port Jervis community. He's a home grown leader, a neighbor and a friend. Port Jervis is lucky to have such a dedicated man as Port Jervis police chief. As Orange County Legislator. I proudly sponsored resolutions in 2019, and again, just last week, reaffirming Chief Worden as a member of the Orange County Police Advisory Board.

Tom Faggione:

Chief Worden brings a wealth of knowledge and true professionalism to the Advisory Board. He's admired and respected by those on the board, as well as police chiefs and leaders across the region. Chief Worden's leadership has been a tremendous value to the Port Jervis Police Department. His knowledge of police work is on equal par with his knowledge of our community. He knows Port Jervis. He is Port Jervis. Chief Worden is someone I've known for more than 30 years. He was a Port kid. He grew up to become a Port man, a Port husband and a Port dad. He is what you want in a neighbor and a friend. And most importantly as your Police Chief, I'm very proud that Bill Worden is Port Jervis Police Chief.

Tom Faggione:

Thank you mayor. Thank you, counsel.

Mayor:

Thank you, Mr. Faggione.

Kyle Mitchell:

Good evening, Mayor, counsel. For those who don't know, my name is Kyle Mitchell. I am the current president of Port Jervis PBA, a member of this department for seven years. Today, I'm here to represent the PBA in addressing the city regarding the current administrative contract and discuss two previous members of our union, and our current leaders in our department. Chief Worden has been a member of this department for 28 and a half years, where he has held every rank, passing over lieutenant, for chief in 2008. For 15 years, he has led the department as Chief of Police, supervising, guiding, mentoring over 60 personnel, including dispatchers, officers, detectives, sergeants and lieutenants in the interim. In that same time, he is responsible for hiring over 40 of us. Chief Worden is undoubtedly, the hardest working chief in the county, most likely the state.

Kyle Mitchell:

Officers and sergeants alike are ever accustomed to see the chief's door open at the end of the hall at uncanny times, such as midnights, weekends, holidays, even during his vacation. When ask why he's still here, the same answer always follows. I just had to get some things done. Chiefs as we know are usually paid a flat rate, salary range, and are not compensated for time, over 40 hours spent.

Kyle Mitchell:

Chief Worden is often seen the complex of the police department for well over 50 or more hours per week, and often completing tasks that rarely benefit himself, but only the department en mass. Like writing grants, following up emails about pretty much anything, to training, hiring, promoting, outfitting. As a past detective, Chief Worden is no stranger to being tied to a cell phone. Whether on vacation, not working, or maybe at 3:00 A.M., our chief not only answers his phone before the second ring is complete, but encourages a call. If a sergeant has a question about anything, or a critical incident happened and his assistance is needed. "Sorry to bother you, chief," is our most common greeting on the phone, always followed by, "No problem at all. What's up?"

Kyle Mitchell:

Chief Warden, the highest administrative role in our department is the first to throw on a vest and hit the streets, if need arises. During previously mentioned critical incidents, which are no stranger to our city, the chief is without pause to respond and assist with incident management, supervision and criminal investigation. I heard a supervisor thank the chief for coming to help us at such an incident like this in the past. And his words were literally, "You couldn't keep me away."

Kyle Mitchell:

But most of all, Chief Worden makes it a point to ensure the welfare and condition of his officers, our union. That's a task that he sees paramount to all. The value of our current chief is not only underappreciated and appreciated, but would be sorely missed under the appointment of a new department head. Sergeants are constantly handing down tasks and assignments that came directly to the chief from his personal cell phone, from members of the public, who just happen to have his number and use it at their will, to report petty offenses or quality of life issues, directly to the top of our command. Precursors to calls often include a warning of, "Guys, the chief just got a message on Facebook about this. So can we go handle it?" I cannot speak to whoever the next police will be or when that will occur. But I can almost guarantee that this fracas will come to a halt immediately. No department that I am familiar with operates in this manner.

Kyle Mitchell:

Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, on the other hand, he's been with our department for 27 years, the last seven as lieutenant. To call him simply lieutenant is a misnomer. And then he quite literally is the department everything. To say, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick wears many hats is inaccurate. He wears all the hats. From IT support, construction, training, scheduling, discipline, supervision of first line supervisors, and so, so much more. Our single full-time lieutenant handles the roles of three lieutenants and at least one civilian employee. On many occurrences officers and sergeants are astonished to receive tasks from Lieutenant Fitzpatrick while he isn't even in his office, on weekends and holidays as he monitors our report writing system from his house.

Kyle Mitchell:

This is not a welcome practice to those of us receiving the task, but a necessary evil for someone in his position. When asked why he does this, he'll usually respond by explaining that if he falls behind, he'll have trouble catching up to all the other roles he's entrusted with daily. Again, this is an example of uncompensated work that goes unnoticed by those who simply don't know what happens. The most common comment made by the rank and file of our department regarding a lieutenant position, currently held by Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, is he following? I'd like to retire from here as a lieutenant, but there's no way in hell I'm doing all that work. I don't even know how to do half of it.

Kyle Mitchell:

This place will have to hire someone strictly for IT and [inaudible 00:08:07]. Lieutenant Fitzpatrick keeps the department operational with his knowledge of all things IT. I personally texted lieutenant about issues with computers and patrol cars on the weekends, and his response is to stop by his house so he can fix it for me. Supervisors reach out to him during off hours, when one of the many computer systems we rely on goes awry and needs immediate remedy to ensure the department maintains consistent operational capability without unnecessary delay. Lieutenant Fitzpatrick personally assisted in facilitating the IT requirements for the new expansion of the police department, including running wires,

designing computer centers, dispatch areas, installing new cameras and more in order to save the city money in the project, as a shoestring budget was offered to complete it.

Kyle Mitchell:

With regard to the previously mentioned critical incidents, Detective Fitzpatrick is also no stranger to immediately respond with the chief, also uncompensated, and assist in any way possible, whether it be a Help Desk, criminal investigation, incident management. He's also a phone call away from any issue that may arise. And with the technology we rely on as vital law enforcement, there are plenty. To hear the troubles this council is having in formulating a contract that is fair and agreeable to these two great men is troublesome to our union. I challenge you to find another command staff that is respected and liked by its subordinates, as these two administrators. I would challenge you to find another command staff that is so well respected and liked that 100% of their subordinates attend this meeting in direct support of them and their families.

Kyle Mitchell:

The city historically can boast its ability for its employees regardless of which sector, of this ability that we have within the city. However, decisions like this will create a ripple effect of rumor, speculation, contempt across the county, no different than what occurred when the city Newburgh recycled five chiefs of police in four years. It should be a core principle for any police department to hire personnel who strive to get promoted and excel within the department they are hired in. With a creation of a second lieutenant position many patrolling and sergeants are excited at the option of possibly promoting to an administrator. However, this excitement will waiver if the treatment of the administration continues in this manner. And it'll be tough to convince a qualified sergeant to leave their union for a tumultuous environment, where they're worried about providing for their families and having to worry about their futures as employees at Port Jervis Police Department. [crosstalk 00:10:41].

Tom Faggione:

Thank you, sir.

Mayor:

Thank you. Anyone else?

Chris Sargente:

Mayor, competing counsel. My name is Chris Sasrgente. I'm past PBA president. I'm the senior member of the Port Jervis Police Benevolent Association, and I'm here off duty. Almost two decades ago when I was a young New York city police officer with a new wife and young children, we made the decision as a family to move to the Port Jervis area. Shortly thereafter, I applied to the Port Jervis Police Department. It was a big change as well as a risk, as I was exchanging a known quantity for an unknown one. At the time. I wasn't sure if I was going to switch departments if given the opportunity. Among my concerns was being a transplant to an area where everybody seemed to know everybody else.

Chris Sargente:

On my very first day inside the police department, as an applicant, I met a young relief sergeant named Bill Worden. He had an impactful conversation with me that I remember very well. Throughout that conversation, his sincerity, his zeal for the job, and his true love for the city came through in the most

genuine and meaningful way. His passion was contagious and it convinced me to make my career, and dedicate the very best working years of my life, to this department. It was a decision I never once regretted my four children all received an outstanding education at the Port Jervis City school district. And through my 20s, 30s, and 40s, I worked alongside too many wonderful people to name here.

Chris Sargente:

Through it all Bill Worden played an outsized his role in this agency, in every rank that he held. He rose to the rank of chief of police in the summer of 2007. Some people change when they get into positions of power. Not Bill. As steadfast and earnest as ever, always leading from the front, right with his workers, he guided the department through endless challenges. He developed and empowered his employees many, many years before those terms became buzzwords.

Chris Sargente:

He practiced proactive and earnest community outreach and public relations over a decade before the state mandated such practices. In other words, he had a vision for the future. He exhibited the ability to see around corners, and he prepared us for what may come in a way that very few police executives were doing at the time. It was not a coincidence that in the summer of 2020, the Port Jervis community largely supported their police in a time when a few others were. Protests often ended in violence. But not here. You may have thought that to be a lucky break, except it wasn't an accident. It was a result of hard work and great leadership. You as the governing body should be thanking your lucky stars to have this man running the police department. You are unlikely to get another that will ever, ever fill his shoes.

Chris Sargente:

However, your approach to human resources has led to an unthinkable situation where this police chief will be forced to resign. Additionally, your police Lieutenant John Fitzpatrick has indicated, he is retiring in a few short weeks, after a remarkable and a distinguished career. This will result in a complete void at the executive level of this agency. When I was PBA president, I had the pleasure of working with some wonderful elected officials, mayors and councilmen from different backgrounds and from different political parties. Men like Kevin Cunningham, Frank Bell, Gary Lapriore, Mike McCarthy, Hank Dunn, Dick Roberts, George Belcher, and Bob Richie, just to name a few. We didn't always agree. And I understood they had to balance the PBA's interests with the city government's interests. But we all wanted the greater good for Port Jervis. Most importantly, when those leaders shook your hand and looked you in the eye, you had their word. That was far stronger than any document drafted up by lawyers.

Chris Sargente:

Now it's my understanding that agreement was reached between the police department leaders and the city. That agreement, in writing, was of several elected officials who are here tonight. That agreement was unretracted. Every successful manager knows that for employees to operate at their best, they require stability more than anything else. The potential ripple effect of this on morale of the rank and file members of our department cannot be overstated. Prepared and orderly succession and continuity of leadership are hallmarks of a successful organization.

Chris Sargente:

You have a very young and very talented workforce. That also is not a lucky accident. They have been carefully vetted, selected and trained. I'm in the final chapters of my career. But these young people you see before you, they're at their beginning. Now they are probably too polite to tell you this, so I will.

They have options. And nothing is more of a talent drain on an organization than low employee morale. We can all agree. We do not wish to see the police department become a training ground for officers who start here and then leave for somewhere else. If you want to hire and retain the best people, you need to put people first. It's people that make the department. I'm proud of my service to this community, and I hope you'll consider my thoughts. Thank you.

Mayor:

Thank you sir. Anyone else?

David Hoovler:

Good evening, mayor, council. I have a few handouts here. I'll give you to pass around. Take one off. They're kind of separated..

David Hoovler:

I'm here tonight... I just want to spend a few minutes to talk to you about some recent activity in Port Jervis regarding drugs and some violence. And I'm here to talk to you about potentially asking that somewhere down the road, the council and the police department, agree to put somebody on county drug task force. And I'll give you some reasons for that, why that would be a good idea. And then at the end of my brief presentation, I might say a few things about your chief.

David Hoovler:

Obviously my name's David Hoovler, I'm the district attorney here in Orange County. I'm the Chief Law Enforcement Official. I'm also serving as president of the State DA's Association. I know a lot of your officers here. As I said, I want to talk just a few minutes tonight about particularly the drug problem in Port Jervis, and how it's being handled and some thoughts on it.

David Hoovler:

First, let me start with the drug problem that we see here in Port Jervis. It's not unique to Port Jervis, it's happening a lot of places. It's caused by a lot of social decay, a lot of social deviation and economic problems. Drugs remain the number one crime issue in Orange County. They have been for the last 15 years. In 2017, 112 people died of overdose deaths in Orange County. In '18, it was 131. In '19, it was 110. In 2020, it went to 137. In 2021, there was 127, with an additional 10 still pending.

David Hoovler:

Those numbers are still not as high as it was in 2013 or 14, but they're extremely high. Ninety percent of the people that die in this county as a result of overdoses, have some type of fentanyl or an opioid in their system. Mostly are male, mostly are white, between the ages of 18 to 35. But they do come from all economic classes.

David Hoovler:

Port Jervis, one of the three cities, has always been an outlier when it comes to the drug trade in Orange County. Let me explain to you why I say that. When you compare Port Jervis to Middletown and Newburgh, you have distinct geographic reasons, personality reasons of the communities themselves and layout of the actual community. Newburgh has always been an open air, drug [inaudible 00:18:30] city, where there has been violence that trails that. Everyone that lived in the county has known that for

years. Middletown has always had some open air markets, some geographic areas that were problematic, as opposed to others. And in recent years, they've had group violence in Middletown, i.e. gangs and loose associations of people.

David Hoovler:

Port Jervis has always been a very close knit, isolated, very hidden drug market, very difficult to penetrate, because most of the people here will not sell to you unless they know you. It presents unique problems. That is changing over time. The press releases that you have in front of you will show that to you. And it is changing and evolving extremely fast. That is happening because you have a transition from an aging population leaving to a transitional population coming in. You have more and more people going through the city now than you've ever had. And you're having all this, despite a very good urban renewal. Again, a lot of things play into this. The economics of the area, it still remains one of the most affordable areas of Orange County. Therefore, more people are going to come here. It still sits at the corner of three different states. It has transportation, particularly the train that goes to Patterson.

David Hoovler:

The drug problem here is exacerbated by all of those things. All those things contribute to it. But additionally, recent things that have happened with bail reform in the State of New York has also contributed significantly to it. And you're going to ask me why that's happened. Well, I'll tell you why. The people that sell drugs in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, come here to do the deals, because they know if they're arrested here, they're going to probably go home as opposed to, if they're arrested in Pennsylvania or New Jersey, they're going to be held on bail. So it just makes economic sense for them to do that here.

David Hoovler:

The area has always been prone to the infiltration of cheap heroin from Patterson, as well as Philadelphia and Scranton and New York City. But what Port Jervis has become, on what the press releases in front of you show, it has become a regional distribution hub. And it is something that everyone needs to pay attention to. I'm paying attention to it. I have been, my staff has been, your chief has been, and many of the men and women in this room have been paying attention to that. To give you an example of how things work in Orange County, as I said to the mayor a few years ago, between 2017 and 2019, and I'm using those years because they're good years for data, we didn't have COVID, we didn't have an issue. Port Jervis had 114 serious drug offenses. One hundred and six of them resulted in guilty verdicts or pleas. Ninety percent of those individuals in those cases were held on bail, pending their cases.

David Hoovler:

That does not happen today. To put those numbers in perspective for that three year period, I'm going to compare that now to Middletown and Newburgh. Middletown had 169 and Newburgh had 193. You may ask yourself, what is the difference? The difference is very clear. Port Jervis on a good day, is about 9,000 people. Middletown and Newburgh, far more. Newburgh is approaching close to 50,000 and Middletown is over 40. Those numbers and those arrests are a credit to the men and women that are here. But it's also a wake up call to all of us, that we need to start thinking about this as Port Jervis, just the way it is. It's becoming a regional hub. We need to take steps. Myself and Chief Worden have talked about this.

David Hoovler:

To give you some more data, Port Jervis ranked second in the number of misdemeanor drug arrests, third in the amount of felony arrests in Orange County for drugs. And if you look at the recent actions that we've had, the December 3 press release, you have regarding guns here in western Orange County, if you look at the press release, it's unprecedented to have gun sales in Port Jervis. You're having them in Port Jervis. Luckily people are being arrested for it and are being prosecuted for it, because you have a great police department. The sheriff contributes to that. And particularly in here, I'm going to single out your detectives in this department do a wonderful job. And I'm not saying the patrol doesn't do a wonderful job, but for those types of cases, it takes that type of work. When you have that many gun sales in a three month period, it raises an eyebrow.

David Hoovler:

Another thing that was very interesting about the December action that we had, you'll see an individual there, Ashley Evans, who was arrested. She distributed almost \$20,000 of methamphetamine in Port Jervis. When she was arrested, that number went up to \$60,000. She specifically said she targeted Port Jervis for two reasons. Number one, it was a good place to start in Orange County. As part of that, she also mentioned bail reform of the State of New York. And number two, she indicated that she could blend in very easy. It had a high transitional population of new people coming to the area. That's what she said, not what I'm saying. That's what she said when she was arrested. She's being prosecuted now. But to put that in perspective, that was the largest meth sales we've had in Orange County in the last 10 years. And they all transpired within five blocks of here. That was the December action. So guns, meth, and amphetamine.

David Hoovler:

You go to the January action. You have several people arrested for assault, including a local youth that many people here know, that they coached and were part of, that shot indiscriminately through a door.

David Hoovler:

It's an increase. It's something that you did not see here over time, but it's coming. And then finally you have the most recent action that we have 19 or 18 individuals that were arrested, mostly for mid-level sales here happening in Port Jervis. So one of them had pictures on his phone of \$180,000 in cash in that. So we're not talking small dealers. We're not talking large dealers. And yes, when I say \$180,000, \$180,000 may seem like a large dealer to you, it's not a large dealer in the grand scheme of things. But it's happening here.

David Hoovler:

Through the use of your detectives here, and many of your patrol officers, along with the task force that I run out of the DA's office with the sheriffs, we've been able to effectuate over close to 30 arrests here. I'm asking you to consider in the future with whoever the leader of this department is to consider having a detective from this department work full time or a couple days a week to start out with the County Drug Task Force. The benefits to your community would be great. As part of that, anytime the equipment needs to be bought or whatever, I purchased the equipment, and it will be given to your department to use for whatever you need. It can be surveillance equipment, it can be other things.

David Hoovler:

So that's what I'm asking for. I'm asking whatever you decide, as far as who's going to leave your department, I'm asking you to independently, go back and think about having someone come onto the county drug task force at least a couple days a week, because it will benefit you. The numbers will go up. The intelligence that comes from the county drug task force, it's given to your patrol officers, will result to increase actions. It will drastically help quality of life, particularly in the summer, particularly in the lower fourth ward. I think be very beneficial to you. That's what I had to say regarding the recent drug activity.

David Hoovler:

I think it's a wake up call and I think it's something we all need to collectively work together on. And it's not something that we haven't been working on, but it's just something I think now that there's enough information, enough data here, that I need to come to you and say we need to start looking at this from an elected leader position, as opposed to your police chief and myself, where it's just figuring out how to arrest people. It's about allocation of resources now.

David Hoovler:

Are there any questions from the council on anything I've said there? So finally, I heard everything you've said about your chief and what's going on. I have been very vocal recently. I have stated publicly that the police in this county need to be paid more. I have sat as, as a councilman. I know you have to basically balance the needs of the taxpayers versus what's going on. I have watched almost 20% of our law enforcement community over the last two years retire. The institutional knowledge that's being lost, is being lost at a rate that cannot be replaced. In a community like Port Jervis, that's devastating because the people that leave, they know the history of the department. They know who lives here. They know who lives there. It's difficult to replace. That's the reason I say you have to pay the police department, the officers more.

David Hoovler:

You basically have to hire the best recruit you can find. You have to basically train them the best and you have to pay them the best to keep them, because it is a challenging job now, a very, very challenging job. So I urge you that in all your negotiations that you keep that in mind. And I understand that you have to basically come under a tax cap. And I understand that you're responsible to the taxpayers. That is something I clearly understand. I know that. When it comes to Chief Bill Worden, I had the pleasure in 2007, I wrote one of the letters to recommend him as the chief to be here. It was read aloud several times. In that letter, I simply said he worked a multitude of cases. He's was one of the best detectives I ever worked with as Assistant District Attorney, when he was hired at your police chief.

David Hoovler:

In the years he has been your police chief, he has done nothing but do this community proud. He is respected. He served as the president here in Orange County of the Police Chief's Association. I can consider him to be a confidant in everything I do in the District Attorney's office. And I consider him to be an extremely, exceptionally good leader of what I am going to say. And I'm going to take some need for it, but I have said it on many occasions. For a small department, you have the best department in the county. And I say that from the standpoint of, it's you know, 40, 42 man department with what you have civilian wise, it operates. It operates well. And no other department polices as well as you do it here. And that's a credit to all these people standing right here.

David Hoovler:

And I'm telling you that as the Chief Law Enforcement [crosstalk 00:29:28] Officer of this county I'm not saying anything bad about Middletown. I'm not saying anything bad about Newburgh. But I'm saying it because what these individuals do here, they do very, very well, when you look at the statistics.

David Hoovler:

Quite frankly, keep Bill Worden as your chief because he deserves it. He's one of the few chiefs you have in the county that, he's young, he's still energetic. He's still got a lot of work to do. He has a lot of credibility. And let me tell you, I had an opportunity to watch some of your E203 committee meetings. Some of the smoothest ones in the county came from here. It came from here because Bill Worden put in a lot of thought. I don't know. He had 100 page slide presentation. It went through everything the department does. No one's ever going to agree. Keep him as your police chief. Do not let a few dollars dictate where your department goes, because as I have learned being president, the DA's association and others, I've watched many people make mistakes over a few dollars that comes back to haunt them. Don't let that come back to haunt this community. And also I drive to this community every day. So I would like to see him remain the police chief. But again, that's your decision in your elected position. [crosstalk 00:30:42] Thank you.

Mayor:

Thank you. Anyone else? If not, I thank the men and women of the Ports Jervis Police Department for coming out in support of your chief and lieutenant. I'm not going to make you stay here cause we're going to go through the executive stuff now and we'll be going to Executive session. But thank you very much.

Regis Foster:

I want to thank you as well each and every one in this room for what you do. I really appreciate it and duly noted. Thank you.

Mayor:

Okay, folks. We're going to do roll call first. We'll start with Mr. Foster.

Regis Foster:

Regis Foster, first ward council and present.

Mayor:

Ms. Fuller?

Misty Fuller:

Misty Fuller, second ward council. Present.

Mayor:

Ms. Mann?

Maria Mann:

Maria Mann, second ward council present.

Mayor:

Mr. Siegel?

Stan Siegel:

Stan Siegel, council at large present.

Mayor:

Mayor Kelly Decker present.

Mayor:

Mr. Decker?

Mike Decker:

Mike Decker. Third ward council present.

Mayor:

Mr. Simmons?

Mike Decker:

Tim Simmons. Fourth ward council present.

Mayor:

Ms. Hernandez?

Melissa Newhauser:

Newhauser.

Mayor:

Newhauser. I'm sorry.

Melissa Newhauser:

Melissa Newhauser, fourth ward council.

Mayor:

It'll happen from time to time folks. [crosstalk 00:31:48].

Mayor:

Folks, the first piece that I have is this resolution to authorize the acceptance and adoption of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Orange County, New York.

Mayor:

Whereas the Orange County Department of Emergency Services with the assistance from the Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. has gathered information and prepared a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Orange County, New York. And whereas the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Orange County, New York, has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, in Title 44 Code of Federal Regulation CFR, part 201.

And whereas Title 44 CFR, chapter one, part 20106, C5, requires each local government participating in the preparation of a Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan or plan update, to accept and adopt such a plan.

And whereas the City of Port Jervis has reviewed the 2018 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Orange County, and has found that the document to be acceptable. And as a unit of a government, has afforded its citizens and opportunity to comment and provide input regarding the plan update in the actions included in this plan.

Whereas the City of Port Jervis will consider the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Orange County during the implementation and updating of local planning mechanisms. And we'll incorporate the Hazard Assessment Data Hazard Vulnerabilities and Mitigation Actions in these mechanisms where applicable.

Now therefore, it be resolved that the city of Port Jervis as a participating jurisdiction adopts the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Orange County, New York, dated April 2018, but we're going to change that to March 2022. [crosstalk 00:33:39]

This resolution is thereupon declared duly adopted on 8 March 2022. What's your pleasure?

Mike Decker:

So moved.

Mayor:

Motion by Mr. Simmons.

Stan Siegel:

Second.

Mayor:

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

All:

Aye.

Mayor:

Okay. The next order of business is to go into executive session regarding police administration, contractual, and/or retirement, and to invite in Chief Worden, Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, Mr. Waxman as well as Laura Quick, if needed. What's your pleasure?

Regis Foster:

So moved.

Mayor:

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

Mike Decker:

Second. [crosstalk 00:34:49]

Mayor:

Second by Mr. Decker. Discussion? All in favor? [crosstalk 00:34:52] All right. Opposed? So carried, thank you.

Mayor:

As I ask you to leave, please, I'm going to open my office for you guys. You can sit in there.

Mayor:

All right. Bill Worden says he is downstairs. If you need him [crosstalk 00:35:04].

Mayor:

It's 9:55. I'll entertain a motion to return from executive session.

Tim Simmons:

So moved.

Mayor:

A motion by Mr. Simmons.

Mayor:

Second?

Melissa Newhauser:

Second.

Mayor:

Second by Ms. Newhauser. Okay. I remembered this time. Discussion all in favor? [crosstalk 00:35:21] Aye. Opposed. So carried. Motion to adjourn?

Regis Foster:

So moved.

Regis Foster:

Motion by Mr. Foster.

Mike Decker:

Second.

Mayor:

I get second by Mr. Decker. Discussion? All in favor? Aye. Opposed? So carried. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Laura Quick

City Clerk-Treasurer Treasurer