

CITY OF PORT JERVIS

P.O. BOX 1002
20 HAMMOND STREET
PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK 12771



Code Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 6th, 2023

Members: Mr. Simmons (Chairman), Mr. Siegel, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Mann

Also Present – Mayor Decker, Mrs. Fuller, Ms. Newhauser, Mr. Rivera, P/T employee Mr. Steele, Fire Chief Keith Brown, Fire Chief Anthony Fuller, Fire Chief Jeffrey Lewis

Public Comment:

Mr. Steele informed the committee he attempted to investigate allegations made against Mr. Rivera himself by speaking with Mr. York.

Mayor Decker and Mr. Simmons stated that the allegation was being investigated by the Orange County District Attorney's office and is ongoing.

Jim Blanton, Resident, raised concerns regarding overnight parking. In his opinion, the current laws are hindering future business opportunities.

The committee discussed allowing overnight parking for snow fall under 2 inches and will continue discussions at the next meeting.

Public Hearing: None

Executive Session: None

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Ms. Miller to approve the August 2nd, 2023, Code Committee meeting minutes.

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

New Business: None

Old Business:

Cash for cans redemption center –

The committee will need to revisit mixed use set backs as a clerical error was found and a new local law will need to be created.

Accident Policy –

Mr. Simmons reviewed the policy and stated that all non-union employees would have to adhere to it.

The Fire Chiefs collectively voiced concerns over the proposed policy, the lack of communication during the creation of the policy and how the policy would receive negative feedback by the volunteer firefighters.

Mr. Brown suggested the committee forward a copy of both the DPW and Police department's current policies so they could work towards the creation of a fair policy.

Zone Changes - Mountain District-

The committee agreed the law would allow for commercial and single-family development up to ¼ acre lots, also to remove any multifamily residential language. Mr. Simmons will confer with corporation counsel.

Zone Change - Waterfront District-

The committee reviewed the draft, the law would allow single family, commercial with variance and trade shops. A public hearing will be scheduled at the next council meeting.

Fire Inspector Position -

Ms. Miller announced that the job has been posted.

HR Position -

Ms. Miller announced that the position will be advertised by the end of the week.

Cannabis Moratorium -

Mr. Rivera would like language to be removed within the restriction paragraph. Mayor Decker noted that he would like to see the moratorium stay in place until New York State provides guidance and clarification.

Long Term Hotel & Motel Stay -

A public hearing will be scheduled at the next council meeting.

Building Official Report:

Mr. Rivera provided updates.

Mr. Steele provided an update on the unfinished sidewalks throughout the city.

Fire Inspector Report:

Discussed a recent fire at the old Kolmar complex. He also discussed the many building and fire violations at that location. Mr. Rivera suggested to the owner that the structure be demolished to prevent any potential harm to any individual.

Keith Brown, Fire Chief, stated he was a supporter of a full-time fire inspector position and discussed current violations and life safety issues.

Mayor Decker noted that the Fire Department would be part of the hiring/interview process.

Public Comment - None

Mayor Decker would like to add an investment policy to the September agenda.

Mr. Siegel cautioned committee members to watch out for the ABU Law, additional building units, currently being passed by the NYS Governor.

Adjournment:

Motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Mann to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM.

AYE: 4 ABSENT: 0 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 CARRIED

Next scheduled meeting will be held October 4th, 2023, at 6:30PM