

# CITY OF PORT JERVIS

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



## CODE COMMITTEE

Chairman - Jason Vicchiariello

Members - Maria Mann (**absent**)  
Jacqueline Dennison  
Stanley Siegel

**Also present:** Councilmen Gerald Oney & Colin O'Connell; Building Official David Rivera

## **Date/Time/Location:**

October 17, 2024 7:00 PM Council Chambers

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Committee Chairman Jason Vicchiariello called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

## **Pledge of Allegiance:**

Chairman Vicchiariello requested a moment of silence for the Brehm Family, the Quinn Family, and law enforcement officers Steve Turner and Tom Collins.

## **Public Comment:**

None

## **Executive Session:**

None

## **Old Business -**

### 1. Consideration of changing section 115-15 of the City Code (Residency Requirements)

Currently City employees are required to live within 15 miles of the City. Primarily in the Police Department there is difficulty in hiring and retaining members and 2 good candidates in the last round of hiring had to be passed over. The Common Council appears to be agreeable to expanding this to either the County of Orange or within 25 miles of the City.

Discussion - Mr. Siegel is agreeable to Orange County, however his opinion is that 25 miles is too far.

This will be taken back to Council for further discussion.

## 2. West End Industrial Zone

This is currently zoned light industrial. The Committee has been asked if other services could be permitted. For example, recently a manufacturing company requested if their accountant could have an office in part of their building. His request for a variance was denied.

Discussion – Mr. Rivera feels things should be left as they are and each circumstance can be addressed individually.

Per Chairman Vicchiariello, clarification of the request was that professional offices be permitted as an accessory use to the manufacturing and warehouse uses.

## 3. Performance Bond Review / Engineer review bond fee reform

Per Mr. Rivera, they are in a current situation where Rumshock Veterans owes the City a lot of money. If the fees are adjusted upward, we would be able to take care of our Engineering Firm, MH&E. Permits cannot be issued in cases where we have to request and obtain additional money and that delays a project. If we take an overage up front, we can always refund.

Motion by Chairman Vicchiariello to bring to Council a recommendation to consider the revised fees (raising to appropriate levels) that Assistant Building Official, Laurie Powrie has been working on. Second by Jacqueline Dennison.

AYE: 3    Absent: 1 (Maria Mann)    NAY: 0    ABSTAIN: 0    CARRIED

## 4. Chapter 457-17 Penalty adjustments are requested to clear up confusion. Chairman Vicchiariello is waiting to hear from Corporation Council as to how to best address this.

Per Mr. Rivera, this pertains to garbage/debris; the penalties are so low that the violations issued are not being taken seriously.

### **Old Business -**

Mr. Siegel is getting many complaints about the hotel project (61 Front Holdings) and wants to clarify if the Building Official can do something or if this is an OSHA matter where Mr. Rivera has no authority. Mr. Siegel stated that seldom is safety equipment worn, children are working (electrical wiring, etc.), tours are going on and there is no certificate of occupancy for the building so people shouldn't be in there. Per Mr. Siegel, OSHA has been notified.

Mr. Rivera cannot enforce any of these items. They are OSHA regulations. He can only enforce the building codes and NY State fire prevention codes.

Per Chairman Vicchiariello, there will be a meeting shortly with the Mayor and owners of the hotel to address issues and concerns to get this project completed. They want to encourage the owners to hire a General Contractor and/or project manager, which would aid in completion.

Per Mr. Rivera, the youth that are working there are being paid by a governmental agency as part of a low income initiative.

Mr. Siegel inquired about the status of Orange West's application. It's been in process, going through the required channels. Mr. Rivera will speak to them tomorrow, as they are ready to issue a response. Chairman Vicchiariello questioned if this this a topic for Code.

**Building Official's Report:**

KFC project is underway (in former Dunkin Donuts location/290 East Main Street). Suite 10 at 100 Pike Street for a Fitness center has plans currently being reviewed by MH&E. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor renovation on the Hunt Building has begun. Apt. 304 is being completed at The Phoenix; 6 more units will also be completed. Two doctors offices are going in at 32-34 Ball Street (Nurse Practitioner & a Pediatric Dentist). The Building Department needs a part-time employee for handling multiple dwelling inspections due to a recent resignation. Mr. Rivera is in need of a larger office space for his department, which is too confined.

**Fire Inspector's Report:**

None – Mr. Rivera praised Mr. Becker's work performance

**Approval of the minutes**

Motion by Chairman Vicchiariello, second by Mr. Siegel, for the approval of the August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Code Committee meeting minutes.

AYE: 3    Absent: 1 (Maria Mann)    NAY: 0    ABSTAIN: 0    CARRIED

Motion by Chairman Vicchiariello, second by Mr. Siegel to adjourn the meeting.

AYE: 3    Absent: 1 (Maria Mann)    NAY: 0    ABSTAIN: 0    CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

Next Scheduled Code Meeting: November 6, 2024 @ 6:30 pm – Council Chambers

Respectfully submitted by D. Braid