

Ken Stickle 118 Catherine Street – came to discuss a few items: first, the urban renewal that took place in the City resulted in 600 buildings being taken down and 2 highways put through the City. Along with that, he continues, the City lost Church Street which used to have beautiful lawns. He advises the Council to do their due diligence before accepting any money from the Federal or State Government. Next, he cites an example of a diner in the Catskills where the owner of the property gave the proprietor a year of discounted rent in order to establish a customer base. He wants to know why the City cannot compel property owners to lower rents in order to help fill all of the empty store fronts? Why can't the City offer them tax incentives in exchange for offering tenants lower rent? He states that he's not talking about bodegas, nail salons, hair salons or cell phone stores, but rather a nice jewelry store, boutique or antique store. The last issue he wants to talk about is the deplorable conditions of Thompson Street, Winnikee Avenue and Smith Street. The pavement and brick of these streets need to be cleaned up.

Constantine Kazolias 47 Noxon Street – states that he is an 83 year resident of the City. Cites an article from Moody's that states the Sanitation Fund is self-sustaining. Wants to know why the compactor at the transfer station not working? In regards to the meters, he believes that they should be placed down by the Metro North Station and the parks as well. He feels that the East/West arterial highway was the worst thing to happen to the City of Poughkeepsie. He states it did nothing for the City as far as development. Lastly, he would like to know why the City does not get any money from the State for Pre-K programs?

Gwen Johnson 52 Manitou Avenue – states that she has seen the plans for the TOD and feels that this is gentrification at its best. She sees people trying to systematically move people out of RIP (Rip Van Winkle House Apartments) by building condos all around it. She states that the area is already so congested and that 2 cars can barely pass. She states that the City doesn't need a study to see the feasibility of running a bus down to Waryas Park. She wants to know why we would have a City bus go all the way into the Town of Poughkeepsie and then down to Waryas Park without having intermittent stops along Main Street? She believes that it is all about bringing other people into the area and making the waterfront for commuters and visitors from New York City. She states that the City does not want residents to use their vehicles to go to parks that their tax dollars pay for. She asks why the City is allowing other people do a study to tell us what we should be doing with our transportation and parking? How can they know what is best for us? She warns the Council that if they accept this information from this study, then there is something wrong with this Council.

Sheila Blanding 78 North Bridge Street – Expresses a "Thank You" to Councilmember Petsas. She thought that by coming here to share ideas it would make the City better – bring it back to its former glory. She thinks that we should get rid of the back biting and the fighting and start brainstorming to figure out what we need to do to make our city better. She states that the problems are "bigger than all of us and it will take all of us to come up with a solution to these problems."

Frank Clarke 50 Rinaldi Blvd – States that this is the 3rd year in a row that he's been asking the Council – since there are so many seniors in the City – if there is any way the buses can

go down Main Street to Waryas Park? He states that the seniors would like to enjoy the park and the restaurants. And, he adds, now that the elevator is running, it is easier than ever to access the Walkway.

Lisa Talbong 430 Gilbert Street – states that on August 24, 2014, she and her son tried to access Spratt Pool. She was informed that it was closed for a private party and would reopen at 4:00PM. She and her son waited until after 4:00PM but she states that the party was still going on. The music was incredibly loud as well as offensive. She states that she spoke with the manager to please have the music turned down or off, but she was told that she (the manager) did not have any authority to do so. She concludes by stating that her family pays for a membership to the pool and that she was unaware that a public pool could be closed for a private party during regular hours. She would like this situation addressed.

Susan Gilbert 9 Garfield Place – wants to discuss the ordinance regarding fees in lieu of parkland. She states that the proposed ordinance should be stayed so that it can be considered with “adequate and mindful assessment” by more than just the current City Administration before it moves forward to the proposed public hearing. She continues by stating that the public hearing should be publicized to allow organizations and residents to have enough time to be included in the process. She states that Poughkeepsie is a diverse city and any ordinance on behalf of all the residents needs to have input of the community. She then quotes the cover letter of the proposed ordinance and states that she believes it (proposed ordinance) is not about providing some form of improvement for the residents to the City of Poughkeepsie and it’s definitely not about preserving parklands – it’s about the exact opposite. She continues by stating that it’s about our local government taking even more control than they already have at the expense of the people who live here.

Bill Dykus 96 South Hamilton Street –states that he is in favor of the parking meter program and that he sees more and more people accepting them.

Doug Nobelitti 145 Academy Street – expounds on the content of Pace’s presentation. He feels that many people do not understand that they are trying to help the City by explaining to us the best use of our infrastructure. He continues by stating that turning away consultants provided by a benefactor to help us is counterproductive. He states that they understand the problems that previous developmental ideas created and that they are here to fix them.

Mae Parker-Harris 16 Allen Place – states that she does understand what the Pace study means. She believes that it doesn’t reflect the citizens of Poughkeepsie. She feels they are an organization that comes into a city and introduces ideas that do not include the residents. She states that City residents should be the ones to make the decisions.

Tron Melton Morgan Avenue – states that he takes offense to the term “ghetto kid” used by a previous speaker to refer to the poor children in Poughkeepsie. He states that he thinks it is disgraceful and racist.

V. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Tkazyik - starts by apologizing to the woman who complained about Spratt Pool and the bad experience she had. He states that he will set up a meeting with the City Administrator and the Commissioner of Public Works to prevent it from happening again as well as investigate to see if it was a permitted event. He goes on to state that this week the City will list 2 RFP's that will be going out for the Poughkeepsie Day Nursery property. One RFP will be to lease the property and one will be to enter into an agreement to purchase the property. He states that Corporation Counsel will post them and the Administration will review all offers and ideas and then present them to the Common Council. This decision comes from discussions with the leadership for other properties – not just Poughkeepsie Day Nursery. The Administration wants to make sure the public is aware of that and to respond to RFP's.

The Mayor continues his comments by stating that this coming week will be the annual church picnic. He expresses his appreciation to John Flowers and all of the other churches who come together to celebrate a day of harmony, peace as well as a day to celebrate each other's fellowship. He expresses thanks to all of the congregations and pastors who contribute to make this come together. The Mayor continues by stating that the City is diligently working on the 2015 proposed budget with the various Department Heads. The budget will be released in the 2nd or 3rd week of September. He further states that Council review dates will then be scheduled to meet with the departments for the City budget.

The Mayor continues by stating that the City Administrator will propose various infrastructure and capital projects under review for 2015. Listed will be the various grants and forms of subsidies that arise from various agencies. He continues by stating that there are several pieces of important legislation on the agenda tonight – particularly one in relation to the establishment of recreation fees. He believes that this is a sound idea and plan. He continues by stating that it does not impact development, homeowners and deed restrictions in any way. He explains that it simply gives the Planning Board the authority to determine whether or not a park land can be established within these subdivisions. The Mayor states that the Town of Poughkeepsie - as well as other municipalities - benefit greatly from this type of plan. If not passed, this funding will then fall into what is called a "rec fee" and spending of that will then be decided by the City where it would then be dispersed into our public parks. The Town of Poughkeepsie has been doing it for many years and their parks are pristine. The benefits of a "rec fee" are easily seen in relation to how it ties to significant development projects that come from within.

The Mayor states that he strongly supports the ordinance regarding nuisance properties and the reduction of violations from 6 to 3 before penalties and fines are imposed. He knows that all of the Council Members have been very vocal on this and he is glad to see it on the agenda. He agrees with tightening up the enforcement of nuisance violations and holding landlords accountable for the neglect and deterioration of the quality of life on many of our City streets – specifically where we see vacant and abandoned properties.

Lastly, he announces that the City is forming a Charter Review Commission that will be made up of 7 residents. He strongly encourages those with municipal or government experience to apply. Resumes can be submitted to the City Chamberlain's Office where they will then be reviewed by

himself and members of the Leadership. He states that this commission will partake in an overall review of the way City government operates and functions. He states that this body is advisory only and will be overseen by Corporation Counsel. He states that City staff will definitely be a part of this Commission as well and that there is no time table for this Commission to submit their findings. He believes that this committee will not come up with any solution before the next Mayoral election.

To conclude his comments, the Mayor supports the proposed Ambassador Project that was discussed earlier and was even thinking of including it in the 2015 budget as part of the overall beautification project.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Chairman Mallory- he states that on September 2, 2014 there will be an informational meeting for the public to ask questions of each department head. He also discusses the creation of the Charter Review Commission that will begin in 2015. He states that the Commission will consist of 7 members chosen by both the Council Leadership and the Mayor. He continues by stating the Council and the Administration will provide parameters for them to work within. Resúmes will be accepted at the City Chamberlain's Office from August 26, 2014 to September 25, 2014 at 4:30pm.

VII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. A motion was made by Councilmember Rich and seconded by Councilmember Johnson to receive and print.**

Corporation Counsel Ackermann informed the Council that said resolution is introducing an ordinance that would establish a mechanism for the planning board to require a parkland reservation for future residential development. The General City Law allows municipalities to make a finding of the impact subdivisions and site plans will have on existing parkland.

If developers are unable to meet the needs for parkland as required by the planning board, they may be required to pay a fee in lieu of parkland reservation. The fee would be put into a recreation fund and dedicated to future parkland needs. Expenditures of the funds from the recreation account would require consent of the Common Council.

The Common Council would be annually tasked to set the fee that would be required in lieu of parkland reservation. The proposed fee is \$1000 for each one bedroom units or studios \$2500 for each two bedroom units and \$5000 for each three bedroom or greater units.

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING ORDINANCE
AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC
NOTICE AND HEARING
(R-14-60)**

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER RICH

BE IT RESOLVED, that an ordinance, entitled “Reservation of Parkland; Fees in Lieu of Reservation” be and it hereby is introduced before the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess and State of New York; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the aforesaid proposed ordinance are laid upon the desk of each member of the Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council shall hold a public hearing on said proposed local law at City Hall, 62 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, New York, at 6:00 o’clock P.M., on September 18, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper of the City of Poughkeepsie of said public hearing at least five (5) days prior thereto.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON

| R14-60 | | Yes/Aye | No/Nay | Abstain | Absent | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled | Councilmember McClinton | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Hermann | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Pery | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Johnson | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Klein | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Petsas | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Rich | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Mallory | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. A motion was made by Councilmember Rich and seconded by Councilmember Johnson to receive and print.

Corporation Counsel Ackermann informed the Council that Central Hudson is currently working on their overhead electric facilities in the Creek Road/Little George Street area. Engineering Department is working with them to coordinate the work and avoid conflicts with existing and proposed City owned infrastructure. A conflict was observed at a utility pole installation location adjacent to Morgan Lake access near the dam.

A proposed pole was drilled in an existing sidewalk. It also conflicts with a proposed 10’ wide walk that has been designed as part of the Creek Road/Little George Street intersection

realignment project. There is also a proposed retaining wall and fence proposed adjacent to the walkway that the pole will be set behind.

Engineering requested this pole be relocated to avoid the present and future conflict. In order for the pole to be clear of the proposed features a guy wire from the pole will be required to be set on City property. The pole will be set within the highway boundary. The guy wire requires an easement from the City.

Central Hudson has prepared the easement and will provide monetary compensation of \$1. The simple easement will further benefit the City. If the easement is not granted, the pole will be set in the middle of the sidewalk. Relocating the pole now prior to construction will avoid delays in the construction schedule and potential costs to the City from contractor delay claims.

R E S O L U T I O N
(R-14-61)

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER RICH

BE IT RESOLVED, The Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie, New York does hereby grant and conveys upon Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation an easement relating to the electrical industry, in form and substance as attached hereto, and authorizes the Mayor, City Administrator and/or Corporation Counsel to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON

| R14-61 | | | Yes/Aye | No/Nay | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled | Councilmember McClinton | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Hermann | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Perry | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Johnson | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Klein | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Petsas | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Rich | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Mallory | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | |

VIII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

IX. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **FROM KEN KEARNEY**, a presentation regarding the proposed purchase of a property located on Pershing Avenue. **Removed**
2. **FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR BUNYI**, a presentation on the 2015-2019 Capital Plan.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Councilmember Rich – he states he has distributed a proposed resolution to the Council .

3. A motion was made by **Councilmember Rich** and seconded by **Councilmember Johnson** to receive and print.

Councilmember Rich indicated that said Resolution is amending the 2014 budget to add \$1552 to assist in the funding of the Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project.

Councilmember Rich made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for Doug Nobelitti to speak, **Councilmember Johnson** seconded the motion

Doug Nobiletti distributed the following information to the Common Council:

How will Nubian Directions determine the program being a success after 6 weeks?

Via feedback from the ambassadors and the "field manager". A report will be produced and provided.

How are the ambassadors going to clean the streets and greet and direct people coming on Main Street?

With brooms and valets, trash disposed of in bags via dumpsters provided by restaurants or available city refuse baskets. The Ambassadors will wear clean attire, likely with T-shirts identifying them and their mission. To start we have targeted the Central Business District – Main Street from Market to Hamilton, covering 3 wards: the First, Second and Sixth.

What is the foundation of having the Ambassador Program?

Prior history: The Ambassador Project was initiated by Main Street Property owner D. Nobiletti, enlisting other businesses and Council person J. Rich to contribute toward "cleaning up the image" of the Central Business District in order to aid ailing businesses and property owners. Wanting to build on the success of prior years of service provided by Nubian Directions II, Inc. (NDI) in their work with City youth, Doug approached NDI to administer the project. Supported 100% by City funding, NDI had previously administered the Ambassador Beautification Project between 2002 and 2008. During those years, City youth cleaned the streets in the main business district (Main, Market, Cannon, Academy, Catharine, and between arterials, Garden, Conklin and Liberty), painted park benches and fire hydrants throughout the City, painted the pool house at Pulaski Park and removed graffiti from the retaining wall at the old YMCA. From 2008 until present, supported by the mayor and funded by the Common Council, NDI has administered the City Gardening Project where City youth maintain more than 20 City-owned gardens under the supervision of a master gardener. Youth workers plant, weed, and mulch between July and October yearly while learning valuable hard and soft job skills. They have done a phenomenal job based on feedback from city residents and visitors to Poughkeepsie. At the Earline Patrice Park, they plant flowers and edibles – tomatoes, corn, peas, squash, etc. The edibles are free to the public.

With respect to cleaning City streets, most recently, in March 2014, as a part of AmeriCorps week activities, NDI youth volunteers partnered with the Pathfinder youth group from Trinity Temple SDA Church to clean Main Street from the arterial East to Catherine/Academy streets.

What steps will be taken to ensure more businesses will participate in the Ambassador Program, if you choose to pursue the program in the future?

After the city shows "good-faith" that it is interested in helping the district which provides the majority of parking meter revenue, Mr. Nobiletti will solicit additional funds from the businesses who presently believe the city is "indifferent and only interested in parking revenue".

Why aren't more businesses participating in the current proposed program?

Mr. Nobiletti has only approached businesses which had positive opinions of the metering as a means of regulating parking. It is expected the city's participation will serve as a "good faith" commitment to the downtown corridor, and will encourage more businesses to join the effort.

Since the central business districts meters are providing the majority of the parking revenue, we need

Mr. Nobiletti will solicit additional funds after the city shows its care and commitment.

Please explain your current budget proposal for the program.

The budget as presented represents funds already committed to the project by Doug & Mechelle Nobiletti and a few interested businesses and 2th Ward Councilmember Joe Rich. The idea is to solicit more businesses and councilpersons to join the cause.

Why do you want the City's assistance for a 6 week program for 2014, instead of presenting us a 12 week program for the summer of 2015?

Because we haven't a minute to waste. Many businesses have complained of a "negative impact" from the parking metering and subsequent voracious ticketing campaign and cannot afford to wait until 2015. August and September sees the arrival of families and students arriving in significant numbers for the start of the school year. October brings a great number of tourists the fall-season leaf-peepers.

Every day waited is a lost opportunity to attract new businesses, investors and patrons for our business district.

With the opening of the Walkway elevator, and a hoped for waterfront shuttle, we MUST make a positive impression on each and every visitor.

The 6-week program will serve as a pilot for a bigger initiative in 2015. Given the success of the pilot, Mr. Wright proposes to merge the two efforts, the gardening project and ambassador project, into a city-wide Beautification Project in 2015 for better coordination of youth services and project efficiency.

Is the Ambassador Program a Nubian Direction concept or did others in the community approach you on such a program?

No. The Ambassador Project was initiated by Main Street Property owner D. Nobiletti, enlisting other businesses and Council person J. Rich to contribute toward "cleaning up the image" of the Central Business District in order to aid ailing businesses and property owners.

**RESOLUTION
(R-14-62)**

PROPOSED POUGHKEEPSIE AMBASSADORS PROJECT

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER RICH:

Whereas, Council members Joe Rich, Tracy Hermann and Bob Mallory recently met with Doug Nobiletti and Robert Wright to discuss a proposed program regarding jobs for Poughkeepsie Youth and the improvement of the City's ongoing litter problem.

Whereas, the result of that meeting and additional discussions has created the concept of the "Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project."

Whereas, \$1540 in funding has been attained from several Main Street businesses as well as 2nd Ward Councilman Joe Rich.

Whereas, an additional \$1552 is needed to fund the proposed Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project to run 6 weeks this fall from September 8th to October 17, 2014.

Whereas, Nubian Directions has agreed to administer the Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project.

Whereas, a copy of the proposed budget for the Poughkeepsie Ambassadors is provided with this resolution.

Whereas, Mr. Doug Nobiletti has offered to attend the Common Council meeting of August 25th to explain the goals and administration of the Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Common Council does hereby amend the 2014 adopted budget by increasing line item 10.08.7140.7469 in the amount of \$1552 to fund Nubian Directions for the Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON:

Official Minutes from the Common Council Meeting of August 25, 2014

| R14-62 | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | Yes/Aye | No/Nay | Abstain | Absent |
| | Councilmember McClinton | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Hermann | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Perry | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Johnson | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Klein | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Petsas | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Rich | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Councilmember Mallory | Voter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | |

- Accepted
- Accepted as Amended
- Tabled

Poughkeepsie Ambassadors Project

Work: Clean Main Street (both sides) from Market to South Hamilton St. (terminating at the corners), including all of street between E & W arterials and Liberty Street between Main Street and Hurline Street

| | Cost | Budget Narrative |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Supervisor | \$ 576 | 1 supervisor X \$12 per hr X 4 hrs per day X 3 days per week X 6 Weeks |
| Workers | \$ 1,440 | 3 P/T workers X 4 hrs per day X 3 days per week X 6 weeks |
| | \$ 2,016 | |
| | \$ 444 | Payroll taxes, Worker's Comp, Liability Insurance |
| | \$ 2,460 | |
| Materials | \$ 264 | 4 workers X \$8/T-Shirt X 8 T-Shirts Plus \$200 for brooms, dust pans, garbage bags, etc. |
| | \$ 369 | Bookkeeper, payroll processing, printing/copying, postage, etc. |
| Total | \$ 3,092 | |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community | \$ 540 | Current Proposal: 3 Businesses at \$180 each (\$30 per week X 6 weeks) |
| Which | \$ 1,000 | Current Proposal: \$1,000 |
| Committed Funds | \$ 1,540 | |
| Uncommitted Funds | \$ 1,552 | |

Official Minutes from the Common Council Meeting of August 25, 2014

A motion was made by **Councilmember Rich** and seconded by **Councilmember Johnson** to resume the rules.

Councilmember Johnson – he starts by thanking all of the residents, Councilmembers and supporters who came to his King Street “Back To School Bash”. He specifically wants to thank Legislator Gwen Johnson, Gladys, Councilmember Petsas and the Exempt Firemen’s Association for all of their help.

He continues by thanking Alexandra Willis, County Legislator Ellen Nesbitt, Councilmember Ann Perry, Mae Parker West and DJ Rah. He continues by issuing a special thank you to Mr. Richie, Muggy, Mr. Myers and Commissioner Gent for going above and beyond for his event. He continues by offering condolences to the family of Emma Barnes who passed away over the weekend. He states that she helped out at his event despite not knowing him.

Councilmember Hermann – he also offers condolences to the family of Ms. Barnes. He then wants to know what the process will be for the Charter Review Commission? Why are there 7 people and not 8? He also asks how much input the Council will have in comparison to the Mayor?

Chairman Mallory – responds to Councilmember Hermann that an odd number for the committee was decided upon by the Leadership. He continues explaining that this body will work to decide the parameters by which the Commission will conduct their business.

Councilmember Hermann – he states that he just wants to make sure it is the Leadership that will be vetting the applicants. He wants assurance that the Council as a body will have some say so on who sits on that Commission.

Chairman Mallory – responds to Councilmember Hermann that on behalf of the Leadership, he has assurance.

Councilmember Hermann – proceeds to read a prepared statement

Official Minutes from the Common Council Meeting of August 25, 2014

There has been a fair amount of discussion lately, including some press, regarding the disparity between what the city has realized to date in parking meter revenue and what was projected last year by the administration and the previous council. Although, this Council has been very vocal in its criticism and opposition of the meters, I want to now urge my colleagues and the community to move toward a workable solution. Given the City is in a lease agreement with Calle for the provisioning of the meters, it is both unrealistic and unlikely that the City will remove the meters, which isn't to say that there aren't some actions this council can take to maximize the potential revenue, while minimizing any negative effects to local merchants and visitors. Recently, the Poughkeepsie Journal ran a news article highlighting the meter shortfall. I find it interesting that I spent a half-hour with the reporter, only to have that reporter glean one quote that tells only one-side of the story. What I told the Poughkeepsie Journal was that—although the meters are yielding far less revenue than what was budgeted— there appears to be some "soft" benefits that aren't being publicized. Both Chief Knapp and DPW's Chris Gent recently told me that there appears to be less drug trade on Main as a result of the movement of vehicles; furthermore, I was stopped recently by the proprietor of a local business who was ecstatic that her customers now have a place to park, and have received emails from downtown visitors in praise of now having a place to park. Of course, this faction is far less vocal than the one opposed to meters. No, the budget should never have been balanced on this pipe dream of \$1.3 million...but the meters are HERE, we're in a long-term lease, so lets find out what we need to do to make the most of them. This may very likely take the form of moving the meters to higher traffic areas, of extended them to Water Street and South on Market to Franklin. It may also likely mean lowering the per-hour meter cost and/or adjusting the weekend times. It may even mean offering grace periods on those meters serving food pick up business and others where short-term parking is a mainstay. Again, I encourage my colleagues and the public to come together to find a workable solution and to become a part of the solution rather than a part of the problem.

Councilmember Klein – states that he has a question for Corporation Counsel Ackerman regarding the status of the Church Street property. He states that there was discussion of a historic home and vacant lot. He states that a local business owner was trying to deal with the situation.

Corporation Counsel Ackerman – responds to Councilmember Klein that he can only say that there are still ongoing negotiations and hopefully the City can put together a package with a solution that will be acceptable to City and private business.

Councilmember Johnson – asks about the status of the City's trucks and snowplows. He wants to know if the City is prepared for this winter.

City Administrator Bunyi – responds to Councilmember Johnson that the Administration had a snow meeting recently and they will be presenting their plans to the Council in September. He continues by saying that the City has set out a budget totaling \$24,000 for leaf removal and equipment and \$64,000 for snow equipment. He states that this is what Central Garage requested of the DPW Commissioner and this amount was what was allotted for those expenses. He states that this amount of money will make all of the equipment operable.

Chairman Mallory – wants to make sure that all of the Councilmembers receive a copy of the leaf schedule.

Councilmember Petsas – revisits the subject of the Pace Study. He wants to know about land banking and what governing body would need to approve the application. How does the City go about submitting an application?

Corporation Counsel Ackermann – responds to Councilmember Petsas by stating the application process itself is lengthy. He states that before an application can even be submitted, the City would need to create a committee, appoint members and a Board of Directors, adopt by-laws as well as decide who will manage the land bank and define its purpose and function.

Councilmember Petsas – asks how does the Council / City get the ball rolling?

Corporation Counsel Ackermann – responds to Councilmember Petsas that the Administration must make a collective decision that this is something that they want to pursue. He states that a Resolution would be the first step.

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Hermann – he states that he conferred with Assistant Corporation Counsel Nick Gildard about the legality of beekeeping in the City. He states that one of his constituents has an apiary on his property. He states that there's no ordinance regarding beekeeping, however, after some research Assistant Corporation Counsel Gildard felt that because the zoning for that area is R-1, that keeping bees would be a violation.

Corporation Counsel Ackermann – he states that he agrees with Assistant Corporation Counsel Gildard's assessment that the section in the R-1 code that spells out the limits of keeping domesticated animals would make beekeeping a violation. He explains that even if the bees were used for commercial purposes, that would still violate the City code. He states that either way, it's a violation of the code.

Councilmember Hermann – he asks if in order to have this be allowed, would it need to be a zoning change?

Corporation Counsel Ackerman – responds to Councilmember Hermann that it is prohibited by the current zoning. He continues that if you want to make it clearer you could track the language put into the Gateway Zoning.

Councilmember Ann Perry – she states that the sidewalks in her ward are in total disrepair.

Commissioner Gent – he responds to Councilmember Perry by stating the scattered sidewalk contracts went out today. He also states that 119 N. Clinton Street is definitely on the list of sidewalks to be repaired.

Councilmember Perry – she asks if Hudson Avenue is on the list?

Commissioner Gent – responds to Councilmember Perry that he did not see Hudson Avenue on the list but he will certainly add it.

Councilmember Petsas – he is concerned about vagrants that are living behind the pavilion in Waryas Park possibly doing illegal activities less than 150 feet from a playground.

Corporation Counsel Ackerman – responds that he doesn't think that it is City property and to check with MTA.

Councilmember Petsas – he continues by asking how can the bus route get changed so that it can go down Main Street to Waryas Park? Many of his constituents are seniors and would like to be able to go to Waryas Park.

Commissioner Gent – he responds to Councilmember Petsas that he will have a meeting with the Transportation Director to see if there's anything preventing that change in the bus route.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by **Councilmember Petsas** and seconded by **Councilmember McClinton** to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Dated: December 19, 2014

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Deanne L. Flynn
City Chamberlain**



COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

Common Council Chambers

Monday, August 25, 2014

6:30 p.m.

***5:45 p.m. Presentation by PACE Land Use Center regarding
Poughkeepsie Main Street Economic Development Strategy***

I. ROLL CALL:

III. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

IV. READING OF ITEMS by the City Chamberlain of any resolutions not listed on the printed agenda.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Three (3) minutes per person up to 45 minutes of public comment on any agenda and non-agenda items.

VI. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

VII. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

VIII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL ACKERMANN, Resolution R14-60, setting a public hearing and introducing an Ordinance, establishing a fee in lieu of parkland.**

2. **FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL ACKERMANN**, Resolution R14-61, approving an Easement with Central Hudson.

IX. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

4. **FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL ACKERMANN**, Ordinance O-14-13, parking change to include permit parking on Lafayette Place.
5. **FROM ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL GILDARD**, Ordinance O-14-15, amending Section 9-34 of the City Code entitled “Effect of non-compliance with any section under this chapter”.

X. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

3. **FROM KEN KEARNEY**, a presentation regarding the proposed purchase of a property located on Pershing Avenue.
4. **FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR BUNYI**, a presentation on the 2015-2019 Capital Plan.

XIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

XIV. NEW BUSINESS:

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

