



# THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

## COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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**Monday, June 29, 2011 6:00 p.m.**

**City Hall**

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**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL**

**All Present (Councilman Coates seat vacant)**

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

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

**None**

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

**Samuel J. Schneck 106 South Avenue** – Is here to support John Murphy. Has known him for over 20 years, states that he loves Poughkeepsie, is a straight up guy and is active in the community. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward needs a stand up guy, my family has been in business in Poughkeepsie since 1948 and we need good representation downtown. You have a good guy on your hands here, potentially and would like to see him in city government.

**David Sosa 4 Merritt Ave. Millbrook** – Spends most of his time in Poughkeepsie, works in Poughkeepsie, plays and socializes in Poughkeepsie. Knows John Murphy from the basketball courts and has learned a lot from him, most importantly to never give up when you really want something. Wanted to thank Murphy and he will do a great job with the city, and gives everyone a hard time on the basketball court.

**Brian Laffin 34 Grace Lane Pleasant Valley (Varsity Basketball Couch Poughkeepsie High)** – Would like to commend the council for their hard work in these tough times. Also here to support John Murphy, in ward 2 he would be an excellent councilman. John would be an outstanding addition to the city council, our youth would recognize him, and he is in favor of a youth center for the city. We have our unity basketball classic and John Murphy would be very visible at those games, he is a fan and a player. Form a youth initiative we recognize John Murphy, and he is an example of what the community can bring and the council to the community.

**Constantine Kazolias 47 Noxon Street** – When read about Murphy said ‘another Irish guy.’ But this guy is not another Murph, to me his father was sports. The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree and it hasn’t here. It would be an added dimension to city government, perhaps a youth center, and he loves sports and would be an advocate for that which is important for the kids.

**Douglas Haring 31 C Flannery Avenue** – Has been doing basketball leagues in the city of Poughkeepsie for 17 years. Have played with Mr. Murphy for years and he has helped guide me in the direction to take the youth to just play basketball but to learn basketball. Right now we have a program to teach the youth the game, to play together, and with John on the council we can take this somewhere else to another level to benefit our youth. It would be nice to have a youth center but for now we can take this all around the city and with John on the council he can represent us a much needed aspect to the council.

## **VII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

- 1. A motion was made by Councilmember Herman and seconded by Councilmember Parise to receive and print.**

**Asst. Corp. Counsel Ackermann** – Introduces the resolution as to fill a vacancy effective on June 24<sup>th</sup> when former Councilman Ralph Coates resigned from the council to take a seat on the school board. Pursuant to the charter section 2.08 this resolution comes before you to fill that vacancy.

**Mayor Tkazyik** – With the resignation of Ralph Coates who is being sworn into the school board the second ward seat became vacant. Once that became public, John Murphy expressed interest, eagerness, and willingness to serve the residents of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ward. He is

also president of the Hudson Terrace Homeowners association, is active in the city of Poughkeepsie basketball league, volunteers at many clubs and organizations and he is employed at Marist College he has lived in the second ward and knows the second ward and loves the city. In speaking with him he looks forward to working with us and expects to see great things happen in the city and working with each member of the council the best way possible and to the best ability he can with those in his ward to make it a better place.

**Councilwoman Solomon** – Assures all John Murphy is a lovely man, but would like to amend the resolution for Joe Rich as second ward councilman. He did serve the second ward as a councilman very well and with distinction would be a fine addition to our council.

**Councilwoman Solomon makes a motion to amend the resolution and is seconded by Councilman Mallory that Joe Rich be approved for the 2<sup>nd</sup> ward seat and not John Murphy.**

**Chairman Klein** – Asks counsel on the matter of this.

**Asst. Corp. Counsel Ackermann** – You have a motion to amend, it is seconded and therefore it would be appropriate to make comment and or a roll call vote on the proposed amendment.

**Chairman Klein** – It would be a vote on the amendment to the resolution where Joe Rich would replace John Murphy. **Mr. Ackermann states that is correct.**

**Councilman Mallory** – Since we the council are in a unique position to decide representation for the second ward on an interim basis, feels we owe it to them to give them someone who has experience in city government. Someone who can take care of what is before us, rezoning, historic preservation etc. That person is Joe Rich. This is not to discourage John Murphy and his interest in politics, but feels that the experience is owed to those in the second ward.

**Councilwoman Johnson** – Would like to know what the party affiliation is for John Murphy. Perhaps we can suspend the rules so that he can tell us.

**Councilwoman Johnson makes a motion to suspend the rules and is seconded by Councilwoman Solomon so as to ask John Murphy question on party affiliation.**

**Mr. John Murphy** – My party affiliation is republican.

**Councilwoman Johnson** – Asks if he ever ran for office before.

**Mr. John Murphy** – No I have not.

**Councilwoman Johnson** – Asks if he has ever worked with youth in programs, sports or otherwise. And what specifically for the children of the city of Poughkeepsie. Have you worked with Ralph Coates or Joe Rich? Have you volunteered at all with cleaning up the Fallkill Creek?

**Mr. John Murphy** – Yes, I have coached Holy Trinity CYO basketball, 1995 through 1997. I worked with Bob Legacy and know him very well, even played under him. Also coached at Arlington High School. I do as much as I can for the youth in the city; I like to teach kids on a one on one basis. I work with Mr. Herring, who spoke earlier. I do stay behind the scenes I am not at the forefront as a figure in the youth basketball scene of the city of Poughkeepsie. I met Councilman Coates on one occasion, and I never met Joe but he lives a block from me and have not volunteered to clean the Fallkill Creek. I like to volunteer my time where I am most apt such as with basketball.

**Councilwoman Flowers** – A lot of us have come into this position without any experience and have done a good job, and doesn't think that should be weighted to heavily. I am sure John will do a good job especially because of his ties to the community.

**Councilman Mallory** – Most, if not all, of us have come into this form politically without any experience. Given the nature of this vacancy as interim for only 6 months we need someone who is capable of stepping in a capacity to field these current issues. I am saying nothing about Mr. Murphy's future in politics, but on the interim basis that is what I am basing this on.

**Councilwoman Johnson makes a motion to resume the rules and Councilman Herman seconds the motion.**

**Chairman Klein** – Is there any comment on the amendment to the resolution.

**Councilwoman Johnson** – Councilman Coates received a plaque for abandoning his seat and he was a democrat, the people in his ward voted for a democrat and is curious as to if Ralph Coates had any input into his replacement. We are replacing his seat that of a democrat with a republican and finds that disturbing. Ralph ran primary against Joe, it doesn't make sense.

R11-64 Amended			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Defeated	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Solomon	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"/>
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Parise	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Herman	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Klein	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESOLUTION  
(R-11-64)**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER HERAMN**

**WHEREAS**, the Councilmember for the Second Ward, Ralph S. Coates, II, has been elected to serve on the City of Poughkeepsie School Board and has submitted his resignation to the City Chamberlain effective June 24, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the office of Councilmember for the Second Ward is vacant; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.08 of the Charter of the City of Poughkeepsie places on the Common Council the responsibility of filling the said vacancy by the appointment of a qualified elector of the Second Ward; and

**WHEREAS**, John C. Murphy has resided in the City for many years and has been active in the community as President of the Hudson Terrace Homeowners Association and has consented to serve the City and the people of the City as Councilmember for the Second Ward;

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie hereby appoints John Murphy to fill the vacant position of Councilmember for the Second Ward until January 1, 2012 in accordance with the Charter of the City of Poughkeepsie

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PARISE**

R11-64			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Solomon	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Mallory	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Parise	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Herman	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"/>

**Councilman Parise makes a motion to suspend the rules and is seconded by Councilman Herman.**

**Chairman Klein – Calls up Mr. Murphy and his wife for swearing into office. With the assistance of the City Chamberlain John Murphy is sworn into office.**

**Chairman Klein –** On behalf of the council members we welcome you and look forward to working with you. I am sure that our relationship will be productive. I have never met a pothole that is either democrat or republican and most of what we do here are real things with real people and I am sure Councilman Murphy will be a great asset to the council.

**VIII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:**

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Chairman Klein and seconded by Councilmember Herman moved to adjourn meeting at 6:45pm.

**Dated:**

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, June 29, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Deputy City Chamberlain**



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL**

Common Council Chambers

Wednesday, June 29, 2011

6:00 p.m.

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL**

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

**NONE**

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

**VII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:**

- 1. FROM ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL ACKERMANN,  
Resolution R11-64, filling a vacancy in the office of Council Member for the  
Second Ward.**

**VIII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

