



# THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

## COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

---

**Monday, June 7, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

**City Hall/Zoom**

---

**The Council Meeting was conducted using videoconferencing, as permitted by the NYS Open Meetings Law.**

**Welcome to the regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is June 7, 2021, and the time is 6:36 pm.**

**Effective immediately and based upon notices and health advisories issued by Federal, State, and Local officials related to the Coronavirus, the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council will not hold in-person meetings. Until further notice, all future City Council meetings (including public hearings) will be held via videoconferencing, as permitted by the NYS Open Meetings Law.**

**Due to public health and safety concerns, the public will not be permitted to attend at the remote locations where the City Council members will be situated. The public, however, will be able to fully observe the video conference meeting by using the registration link that was posted with our meeting notice and the meeting will be available for viewing at a later date and available on our website.**

**I'd like to acknowledge that we are gathered, wherever we are, on the traditional territory of the Lenape people and this territory was a critical resting place along a popular trade route for people of the Lenape Nation and other cultures as is evidenced in the earliest derivation of the name 'Poughkeepsie' with an indigenous string of words, U-puku-ipi-sing, that, when translated, means 'reed-covered lodge by the little water place' or resting place.**

**Let's all recite the pledge of allegiance.**

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**ROLL CALL - Five present, two absent (Councilmember Cherry absent & Councilmember L. Johnson & R. Johnson late arrival)**

**II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

**Common Council Meeting May 17, 2021**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to accept the minutes.**

CCM Minutes 05-17-2021						
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**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.**

**1. Laurie Sandow – S. Grand Ave.**

Tonight’s meeting will give the public at least two windows into the secrecy, manipulation and deep dysfunction of this city’s Common Council. First—missing from tonight’s Council agenda, as it has been week after week, we have absolutely nothing about 14-year-olds being murdered, arson on S. Clinton, a tidal wave of evictions, market rate apartments that people can’t afford, misery for N. Hamilton residents, and more. What do we have instead? Rather than urgent issues, we have yet another Southern Waterfront presentation, for what?—the third meeting in a row? brought to you by councilmembers who prioritize their own re-election campaigns and campaign contributions over the life and death issues facing city residents. Secondly, we have the 8th Ward vacancy created by Matt McNamara’s resignation. Apparently, the councilman has resigner’s regret, including refusal to remove his name from the June primary ballot. A day after his resignation became effective, McNamara sent a digital newsletter using graphics that looked as if he was still in office and never once using the word “resigned”. Instead the ex-councilmember referred only to “tak[ing] a small step back...” and “taking a break”. So just to be clear: on May 4th, without prior warning, Matt McNamara resigned his council seat effective June 1. On May 7th, the Council posted notice to send resumes and cover letters by May 27th. Six people did this, myself included. Has the Council Chair made all applicant names public? No, of course not. And when will the interviews take place? Not a single interview scheduled until after the primaries. Gee, what a coincidence. To restate the obvious, this council has chosen to deprive the 8th Ward of representation for a full month, while the “Me First”

councilmembers focus on their own benefit. But that's not all: Second Ward councilmember Evan Menist is a not only a member of one 8th Ward applicant's vacancy committee, but a leading staff member for a Rockland-Westchester NY State Senator. Town resident and Dutchess County Legislator Rebecca Edwards also collected petition signatures for Menist's hopeful, even after previously declaring that (and I quote): "issues related to Poughkeepsie City Council are not in the county legislature's purview." To ice the cake, while the rest of city is kept in suspense as to the names of the applicants for the 8th Ward vacancy, the organization Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson is already circulating sponsored advertisements for both Sarah Salem and one hopeful. Did no-one tell the hopeful she's been hooked up with an organization known for yanking the corporate ladder out from under its own Latinx organizers? Or that, when current and former student interns released a document titled "Intern Statement on Black Lives Matter", Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson responded by terminating all 60 current interns, including those who had not signed the BLM statement. Woe to the hapless applicant being promoted and chauffeured through the vacancy process by self-interested councilmembers and a Dutchess legislator. Which leads to this: The council MUST vote publicly to fill the 8th Ward vacancy. Evan Menist has a clear conflict of interest, and must recuse himself, as must Sarah Salem, Sarah Brannen and Chris Petsas—all known for their documented hostility to one or more applicants. Of the four remaining councilmembers, at least two have promised to endorse another particular applicant, even before interviews have been conducted. Does that leave only two councilmembers qualified to vote objectively on the vacancy? Only a public and transparent vote will answer that question.

## **2. Doug Nobiletti – 145 Academy St.**

### **V. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

There have been a string of violent shootings and crime throughout the city during the past few weeks, kids shooting kids. And we're all wondering, where are they getting the guns? Where are these guns coming into our community from and how are they getting in the hands of our youth? This is a complex issue. It will have a complex solution. So I'd like to call a special meeting to convene community members, local officials, subject matter experts in order to seek solutions to this growing epidemic of gun violence and other violent crimes here in the city of Poughkeepsie. We need to put our kids first. Our youth need to be our number one priority. And in order to solve these issues, we've got to work together. And the sooner we act, the sooner we can and the better chances we have at saving the precious lives of our young people. A 14 year old was recently murdered and these gun shots are just literally flying in in in the streets.

And with that, a string of other violent crimes. As summer approaches and as the

temperatures rise, we're seeing more incidents of violence in the city. And there are a lot of other issues that are working. And so this meeting, we can get another opportunity, have another opportunity to bring people together to discuss possible solutions, possible paths forward as an outlet for community members who want their voice heard, who may have an idea, and for experts, for police and fire city administration. The mayor, obviously, council members all kind of lend their voice to figure out what's going on. I know there is a firearm buyback currently happening, which is great. So there are other things that we can test as solutions to this issue because again, we need to act now so that we can save the lives of our young people and we can get these guns off the street and we can get kids out and doing things that are fine during the summer, not having to go to funerals or wakes or mourning loved ones. Deadline for resumes to fill common council member vacancy left in the Eighth Ward has passed. The council will be conducting interviews with residents of the 8th Ward who expressed interest following the interviews. We will discuss and determine which candidate will be appointed to recover the remainder of the term. So in order to do that, we'll hold a special meeting to make the appointment prior to June 30th. That meeting will be on June 20 at six p.m. and registration link and other information will be posted on the city website in the coming days. And, you know, we received a handful of resumes and we'll have to go through them as a council. The appointment will be made again at a special meeting that is open to the public. And so, again, that will be on June 28th, which is a Monday at six p.m. and then we'll have somebody to fill that seat again to recover the remainder of the term in the 8th Ward. It's Pride Month, and this is where we celebrate LGBTQ identities in honor, the first gay pride, which was literally a riot at the Stonewall in New York City, led by Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, two black Trans women who decided that enough was enough and refused to cooperate during a police raid. Months of riots ensued. And now, years later, we are still celebrating the activism that occurred on that day in 1969, and that still occurs on during the month of Pride, where we rally the community, we rally allies and supporters in celebration, protests, political and social activism for LGBTQ equality now. So this Saturday, there's a great opportunity. June 12th with the Poughkeepsie Pride March, which steps off on Market Street at 12:00 p.m. to gather in solidarity of lesbian, queer, gay, bi transgender rights so that we can all gather and celebrate diverse and different identities in solidarity. We have a lot of work left to do. Hate crimes are on the rise nationally, 17 percent of them inflicted against LGBTQ individuals in a higher percentage against black Trans individuals. And so I actually, in attending other rallies during the last pride in 2020, heard from a black Transgender woman on the best path forward for allies besides showing up at marches, showing up at rallies, using your voice on social media is to speak up. If you see something, if you hear something, say something. Use your position and your identity to protect the rights and the powers of others so that we can all come out confidently and be who we are freely without fear. In 2021, I think that we owe a priority to welcoming diversity and difference and not just welcoming that, but trying to intervene if it feels safe enough to do so. And if you can and if you can kind of

leverage your position in community for somebody who may not have as strong of a position, I think that that is very important. I feel very, very proud to be part of such a beautiful movement and a community as a queer transgender individual. And I want every single person who identifies as queer or LGBTQ and any parts of the spectrum. In all, there are many to feel welcome in their home. Part of the way that I do this at council meetings is to ask folks during public participation to identify their pronouns which preferred pronouns they use. You can see my little Zoom name has my preferred pronouns. Which are they/them. And now we're seeing signatures of emails containing pronouns. Either she, he, him, they, them, z. Whatever your pronouns are, declare them and help other folks know that it's OK for them to speak up and say and be comfortable saying who they are. The more often we each do that, the more welcome will make the world for our young people who are just finding their way and discovering their identities, who should feel safe to do so, who shouldn't feel kind of bounded up by fear. So get out there and celebrate pride in whichever way you see fit. And June is also my birthday month, so I'm extra happy. So thank you. And that concludes my comments.

## **VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:**

### **1. SOUTHERN WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE**

So this hopefully will be brief and I'm happy to answer any questions from my colleagues. The Southern Waterfront Task Force, if everyone recalls, was charged with issuing two sets of recommendations, recommendations for short term access and opening of the site, and then recommendations for the longer term vision and redevelopment of the site. So the deadline for the first set of recommendations was actually July 5th. The recommendations were published online last week and we'll be ratifying them in the Southern Waterfront Task Force meeting tomorrow. So if you haven't had a chance to take a look at them, please do there on the website, I prompted everyone to take a look at them in the last council meeting and then the one before that they've been. In draft form on the city's website for a little over a month, I want to say maybe five or six weeks, I don't know if Miss Davis remembers, but I'm blanking on when we posted the first draft recommendations. But it was over a month ago and they've been refined since then. So then, I will say the challenge that we had in this process to get to these recommendations was really trying to understand the priorities for reopening. If everyone remembers this all started, I would say it started with council member Petsas last year saying we should get this open for striper season and then flagging for the council members that there were safety concerns. And then some months later, council member Menist and I met with the administration and said, can we please get it open for this year, especially given the need for open space during covid? And somebody from the public earlier mentioned that this is not mission critical, that that reopening this site is frivolous compared to the other serious things at hand. And I would disagree with that. I think that opening up this site is actually about the health and well-being of our community members.

And the thing that makes this city so unique is that we are on the river and I'm not an expert in violence, but I have read a bit, and it often comes when people have a sense of hopelessness and they can't see a path forward for themselves. And so they resort to something that they can do in the moment to protect themselves or protect something that is important to them or feels like survival to them. And I was trying to understand, you know, what it is that we can do as a city to address these kinds of things and the violence that is ravaging our city and in particular our young people. And I'm looking forward to this meeting we have coming up. It's relevant to this particular project, I will say, because we were looking at best practices. And one of the things that I learned in this comes from the John Jay School criminal justice is that there are a lot of different ways to address violence in a city. And there was a report published last year about community based interventions to prevent violence. Their number one recommendation for effective and safe and affordable antiviolence strategies is improving the physical environment. And they talk about increasing prevalence of greenspace, improving quality of neighborhood buildings and housing, and creating public spaces with ample lighting and pedestrian traffic. And then they, of course, talk about upending social norms and peer relationships, which we know is something that snug is doing in our city. But I share that because I think it's a mistake to oversimplify the importance of open space. And I want to just share. Generally speaking, what our short term recommendations are going to look like if you haven't seen them, they really focus on very basic nuts and bolts. So where should the fence go? Do we need a railing on the bulkhead? Do we need a dedicated fishing area? Where is pedestrian traffic allowed? Where is where is the vehicular traffic allowed? And where can I share my screen for a moment? I just want to show one image. So I want to thank Mr. Nelson for putting us in touch with mass design, they are the planning board consultant to do architectural review for the city. And so they offered to assist the task force with some images. And we just got these finalized right before this meeting. So you're getting this hot off the press. This is an aerial view of the site that goes all the way from Rinaldi Boulevard here to these oil tanks back here. And as you can see, it's big and it's expansive and it has a pretty uneven topography. So a lot of what we've been focused on over the past two months has been addressing these existing site conditions quickly and affordably. And we know that whatever recommendations we vote out tomorrow are just the beginning, that there's going to be a whole implementation process. And several of the council, several of the taskforce members have agreed to serve on an implementation working group with the administration to help support their efforts on implementation. So this is the existing condition. We have these building pads. We have these bulkheads here, and then we have this riprap here. There is a fence. You can't really see it that prevents access that runs along here. So generally speaking, this is our vision for a short term, short term public access. So it would be removing this fence in its entirety and moving it back and allowing not for vehicular traffic here on this site because we think it would not be feasible, but rather to keep vehicular traffic in this lower parking lot, which is part of the DeLaval site and has about 100 parking spaces and would have a curb cut here off

of Rinaldi Boulevard. So luckily, Mr. Dupilka, the city engineer, has already started looking at this curb cut. So this would allow people to come in off of Rinaldi Boulevard without having to drive through Chateaux parking lot, which really is supposed to be reserved for their business. And so that is those are really the big, big changes are moving the fence, allowing for vehicular traffic in the parking lot and then allowing for pedestrian access on the remainder of the site. Because there are some hazards on the southernmost edge. We recommend not necessarily providing access to the entire site, but rather just providing access to most of the site up until the point basically where the train tracks become level with the ground. So all that said, this is a this is a big represents a big amount of progress from the time that council member Menist and I met with the administration in February. And I'm just really, really grateful for the opportunity to work with this task force. I can't even tell you how ambitious everybody has been and diligent. We've probably been on a dozen site visits and walk through as we've talked to DEC, there's just been a lot of work. So those short term recommendations will be coming your way within the next 24 to 48 hours in their final form. And the long term recommendations, we would like to come back and talk to you about the time frame for those. My co-chair, Kafui Attoh and I heard from the task force members that they're concerned we won't be able to complete the long term recommendations by July 5th, which is less than a month from now. So I'm flagging for you all that we might be coming back in the next council meeting and asking for a short extension on the long term recommendations. And I'm happy to answer any questions. Thanks.

**Salem:** Great. Thank you so, so much. Are there any questions from council members for council member Brannen? Great. Thank you Councilmember Brannen, councilmember Menist, incredible work, honestly, to see that rendering. It's very exciting. I've heard a lot of talk about the southern waterfront. I've seen the survey being shared out among community members. We have surveys that we're giving out outreach to try and get diversity of responses. And I think that it's very exciting to know that we could be on that site this summer enjoying that long view down south on the Hudson. So thank you again and thank you to the task force members for all the work that you've put in to this short term task force. Appreciate that.

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

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to receive and print.**

- 1. Resolution R-21-49**, a Resolution authorizing and consenting to IDA legal representation

**RESOLUTION**  
**(R-21-49)**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND CONSENTING TO IDA LEGAL REPRESENTATION**

**INTRODUCED BY CHAIR SALEM:**

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council has retained the law firm of Lamb & Barnosky, LLP to represent it in litigation entitled *Poughkeepsie Waterfront Development, LLC, et al. v. City of Poughkeepsie Common Council, et al.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the City’s Industrial Development Agency (“IDA”), who is also a defendant in that litigation, wishes to retain Lamb & Barnosky, LLP to represent its interest in the litigation;

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chairperson is authorized to execute a June 2, 2021 letter from Lamb & Barnosky, LLP relating to its continuing representation of the Common Council and representation of the IDA.

**SECONDED BY**                     **BRANNEN**                    

<b>R-21-49</b>			<b>Yes/Aye</b>	<b>No/Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Flowers to receive and print.**

- 2. Resolution R-21-50**, a Resolution setting a Public Hearing on the proposed Local Law restricting Off Road Vehicles

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW  
AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC  
NOTICE AND HEARING  
(R-21-50)**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS: PETSAS, FLOWERS & L. JOHNSON**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that an introductory Local Law, entitled “Local Law Amending Chapter 14 of the of the City of Poughkeepsie Code of Ordinances Entitled Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions”; 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 local law 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 5:30 P.M., on June 21, 2021; 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** BRANNEN .

R-21-50			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember R. Johnson to receive and print.**

3. **SEQRA Resolution R-21-51, and Sale Resolution R-21-52**, authorizing the Sale of City Owned Property at: Spruce Street Vacant Lot: 6062-60-924470

**NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW  
ACT (SEQRA) RESOLUTION REGARDING A SALE OF  
CERTAIN CITY OWNED PROPERTIES  
(R-21-51)**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER PETSAS :**

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie is considering the sale of city owned property located at no number Spruce Street and identified as Tax Map No: 6062-60-924470; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council considers the proposed sale to be an Unlisted Action under Title 6 NYCRR, Section 617.2 of the SEQRA regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council considers itself to be the only "involved agency" with respect to this proposed sale of properties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council has reviewed the proposed sale of properties in accordance with Title 6 NYCRR, Section 617.11; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council has considered the hereto attached Short Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(1) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council determines that the above described action is subject to SEQRA; and
2. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(2) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council determines that the action does not involve a federal agency; and
3. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(3) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council determines that the above described action does not involve any other agencies; and

4. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(4) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council classifies the above described action as an unlisted action. The Common Council in making such classification considered Section 617.12 of Title 6 NYCRR and determined that the above action did not fall into any of the categories listed under Type I, and also considered Section 617.13 of NYCRR and determined that the above described action did not fit under any of the categories listed under Type II Actions, thus reaching the conclusion that it is to be considered an unlisted action; and
5. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(5) the Common Council determines that the above described project will not require a long EAF since the short EAF provides sufficient information; and
6. The Common Council officially makes a determination of non-significance in that the proposed sale of properties are not expected to result in a significant adverse impact on the environment and, therefore, the preparation of a draft environmental impact statement is not necessary; and
7. This determination shall be considered a Negative Declaration for the purposes of Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law; and
8. The City Chamberlain shall maintain a file of this determination as well as the attached EAF which is hereby made a part of this resolution.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER: BRANNEN**

R-21-51			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to receive and print.**

**RESOLUTION  
(R-21-52)**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER PETSAS:**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Poughkeepsie has previously taken title to a lot improved with an accessory structure known as Unnumbered Spruce Street (Tax Map No: 6062-60-924470), in the City of Poughkeepsie by reason of unpaid taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, the property is a unused vacant lot owned by the city that is therefore not currently on the active tax rolls; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Property Acquisition and Disposition Committee has secured an agreement to purchase from the owner of the adjoining properties on either side of this vacant lot; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed purchaser has agreed as a condition of sale, to merge this vacant lot into to parcel commonly known as 125 Talmadge Street, which is on the corner of Talmadge and Spruce Streets; and

**WHEREAS**, an offer has been received from Rejuvenate Properties 2, LLC to purchase these properties for the sum of \$1,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Property Acquisition and Disposition Committee, having considered the mission of the Committee and the policies of the City, one of which is to increase homeownership, has recommended that the City of Poughkeepsie accept this offer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council hereby finds that the offer from Rejuvenate Properties 2, LLC is in the best interests of the City of Poughkeepsie; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Common Council hereby makes the following determinations: (a) that there is no existing municipal purpose or need for this property, and (b) that the sale price and conditions imposed herein represent fair and adequate consideration for the conveyance; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the offer from Rejuvenate Properties 2, LLC, to purchase premises known as unnumbered Spruce Street (6062-60-924470), in the City of Poughkeepsie for the sum of \$1,500.00 is hereby approved subject to the hereinafter mentioned conditions and subject to such other and further conditions which the Corporation Counsel shall deem appropriate; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this sale is approved subject to the following conditions:

- A. That the Purchaser shall within thirty (30) days of the date of this resolution, take title to such property.
- B. The transfer of title and Purchaser's use of the Property shall be subject to all state, federal and local regulations including the City of Poughkeepsie and New York State Building

- Codes and the City of Poughkeepsie Zoning Ordinance and real property taxes coming due pursuant to law on and after the date of transfer of title;
- C. Purchaser shall merge the property with the adjacent property it currently owns located 125 Talmadge Street.
  - E. Purchaser agrees that he shall not use the agreed upon purchase price as a reason to grieve or otherwise contest the assessed value of the premises for purposes of real property taxation; and
  - F. Prior to the closing of title, Purchaser shall apply for and obtain the approval from the Planning Board and/or the Zoning Board of Appeals of any site plan approval or zoning variances required by law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor or the City Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into a contract of sale for the above mentioned transaction provided such contract contains the terms contained herein together with such other terms and conditions which the Mayor and the Corporation Counsel shall deem appropriate, and the Mayor, the City Administrator and the Corporation Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the terms of this resolution.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRANNEN** .

R-21-52			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to receive and print.**

- 4. **SEQRA Resolution R-21-53, and Sale Resolution R-21-54**, authorizing the Sale of City Owned Property at: 375 Church Street Vacant Lot: 6161-24-430899

**NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW  
ACT (SEQRA) RESOLUTION REGARDING A SALE OF  
CERTAIN CITY OWNED PROPERTIES  
(R-21-53)**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER CHERRY:**

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie is considering the sale of city owned property located at 375 Church Street and identified as Tax Map No: 6161-24-430899; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council considers the proposed sale to be an Unlisted Action under Title 6 NYCRR, Section 617.2 of the SEQRA regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council considers itself to be the only "involved agency" with respect to this proposed sale of properties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council has reviewed the proposed sale of properties in accordance with Title 6 NYCRR, Section 617.11; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council has considered the hereto attached Short Environmental Assessment Form (EAF)

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as follows:

1. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(1) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council determines that the above described action is subject to SEQRA; and
2. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(2) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council hereby determines that the action does not involve a federal agency; and
3. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(3) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council determines that the above described action does not involve any other agencies; and

Official Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of June 7, 2021

4. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(4) of Title 6 NYCRR, the Common Council classifies the above described action as an unlisted action. The Common Council in making such classification considered Section 617.12 of Title 6 NYCRR and determined that the above action did not fall into any of the categories listed under Type I, and also considered Section 617.13 of NYCRR and determined that the above described action did not fit under any of the categories listed under Type II Actions, thus reaching the conclusion that it is to be considered an unlisted action; and
5. In accordance with Section 617.5(a)(5) the Common Council determines that the above described project will not require a long EAF since the short EAF provides sufficient information; and
6. The Common Council officially makes a determination of non-significance in that the proposed sale of properties are not expected to result in a significant adverse impact on the environment and, therefore, the preparation of a draft environmental impact statement is not necessary; and
7. This determination shall be considered a Negative Declaration for the purposes of Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law; and
8. The City Chamberlain shall maintain a file of this determination as well as the attached EAF which is hereby made a part of this resolution.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER: BRANNEN**

R-21-53			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to receive and print.**

**RESOLUTION  
(R-21-54)**

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER CHERRY:**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Poughkeepsie has previously taken title to a vacant lot known as 375 Church Street (Tax Map No: 6161-24-430899), in the City of Poughkeepsie by reason of a Treasurer's Deed; and

**WHEREAS**, the above mentioned properties have been offered for sale by the City in accordance with the policy for the sale of City owned property; and

**WHEREAS**, an offer has been received from Zafrulla Baksh to purchase these properties for the sum of \$10,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Property Acquisition and Disposition Committee, having considered the mission of the Committee and the policies of the City recommends the sale of this property for planned purpose of creating a community garden on the vacant parcel of land; and

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council hereby finds that the sale of this city-owned property to Zafrulla Baksh is in the best interests of the City of Poughkeepsie; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Common Council hereby makes the following determinations: (a) that there is no existing municipal purpose or need for this property, and (b) that the sale price and conditions imposed herein represent fair and adequate consideration for the conveyance; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the offer from Zafrulla Baksh to purchase premises known as 375 Church Street (6161-24-430899), in the City of Poughkeepsie for the sum of \$10,000.00 is hereby approved subject to the hereinafter mentioned conditions and subject to such other and further conditions which the Corporation Counsel shall deem appropriate; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this sale is approved subject to the following conditions:

- A. That the Purchaser shall within thirty (30) days of the date of this resolution, take title to such property.
- B. Purchaser shall obtain any permits which may be required for the project, which will consist of raised garden boxes, tables with benches, and other items necessary for a community garden, within six (6) months of the closing of title;
- C. Purchaser shall obtain, if required, a valid Certificate of Compliance for the property within one (1) year after the issuance of a building permit;

- D. The transfer of title and Purchaser’s use of the Property shall be subject to all state, federal and local regulations including the City of Poughkeepsie and New York State Building Codes and the City of Poughkeepsie Zoning Ordinance and real property taxes coming due pursuant to law on and after the date of transfer of title;
- E. Purchaser agrees that he shall not use the agreed upon purchase price as a reason to grieve or otherwise contest the assessed value of the premises for purposes of real property taxation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and/or the City Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement for Sale of Land for the above mentioned transaction provided such agreement contains the terms contained herein together with such other terms and conditions which the Mayor and the Corporation Counsel shall deem appropriate, and the Mayor, the City Administrator and the Corporation Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the terms of this resolution.

**SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRANNEN** .

R-21-54			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Menist	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 L. Johnson	Voter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chair Salem	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:**

**A COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR NELSON**, authorizing Sale of City Owned Property at: 302 Church St.: 6161-23-285902

**X. OLD BUSINESS:**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm.

**Dated: June 11, 2021**

Official Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of June 7, 2021

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, June 7, 2021.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Jasmin Nicole Davis**  
**City Chamberlain**

