



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 23, 2021 6:30 p.m.

Changepoint Theatre

Welcome to the regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is August 23, 2021, and the time is 6:31 pm.

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 - Six present, three absent at time of roll call (Late: Councilmember Cherry, Absent: Councilmember Petsas, Councilmember L. Johnson)

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

**Common Council Meeting – July 6, 2021
Common Council Meeting – July 12, 2021
Special Meeting – August 10, 2021**

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. Caroline Fenner – Town of Poughkeepsie (submitted written comments)

Dear Common Council members,

I support the Good Cause Eviction legislation and I am asking for all of the Common Council members to support it, as well.

The Good Cause Eviction legislation aims to protect tenants against landlords who de-house them without a just reason. Good Cause Eviction legislation would bar landlords from removing a tenant without justification unless they can show a "good cause" such as failure to pay rent or not living up to the terms of the lease. Tenants in good standing would be offered renewal leases and this would prevent landlords from pushing good tenants out just so they can jack up the rent.

We need this legislation so badly in the City of Poughkeepsie. As someone who volunteers with Hudson Valley Eviction Defense, I hear horror stories about tenants in Kingston who are being pushed out of their living situations by greedy landlords who want to increase the rent so that people of greater means who are moving into the Hudson Valley from New York City can move in and pay them more rent.

This is also happening in Poughkeepsie.

If we don't do something to protect tenants from being thrown out for no good reason, families and their children will be living out on the streets of Poughkeepsie during a pandemic.

The Eviction Moratorium is up on August 31 and today is August 23, so this is an incredibly urgent situation. Please support Good Cause Eviction. We need regulations and protections for the people of the City of Poughkeepsie by making landlords follow common sense and good, fair practice so that good tenants can stay healthy, safe, and housed.

Sincerely,
Caroline Fenner
Town of Poughkeepsie

- 2. Fatimah Carmen Luisa Martinez – 45 Smith St.**
- 3. Dorrett Roberts – 148 Franklin St.**
- 4. Gus K**
- 5. Ken Stickle – Montgomery St.**

6. Lydia Hatfield – Union St.

7. Laurie Sandow – S. Grand Ave.

Here we are, after a month's break, with tonight's Council meeting resembling nothing more than déjà vu all over again. The Council's August 25th so-called "Special Meeting" inappropriately merging gun violence and homelessness, is not scheduled until two days from now. From June 7, when Council Chair Salem first lied about convening that meeting, an ever-growing number of violent incidents have taken place in the city.

What is taking precedence on tonight's Council agenda? Yet another effort by both Council and Administration to under-inform, fool, and grandstand in front of all the people, all of the time. Tonight we have:

—A city government meeting in a church, defying the wall of separation between church and state;

—A Finance Committee report, with no documentation in the public's agenda packet;

—The 5th, 6th, or 7th Southern Waterfront presentation, also without documentation;

—A communication, supposedly introducing Good Cause Eviction legislation, without a hair of documentation in sight;

—A communication about youth services that alleges to be the product of two years of ongoing conversations; a full two years of meetings held behind closed doors. —

And speaking of behind closed doors, we have PK4Keeps steering committee meetings, also held behind closed doors, without video, webcast, minutes, or attendance reports. The latest City invention that locks the public out, with consultants specifically privileging and instructing steering committee members as follows, and I quote: "you also have access to much more information than other community members" and "during each of our steering committee meetings, we will present various questions for steering committee members to discuss and debate. Similar questions will be packaged (and I emphasize "packaged") for you to take out into the community..." Where is this committee's first open house being held? — in a bar.

What a curious message to the public: City meetings in a church; PK4Keeps meetings in a bar. Once again I renew my demand that all PK4Keeps meetings be announced to the public, open to the public, and recorded for posterity.

What else is interesting about tomorrow's PK4Keeps meeting and tonight's "Good Cause Eviction" grandstanding? Two councilmembers—Sarah Salem and Evan Menist—who are among the leading purveyors of this City's gentrification, self-selected and placed themselves on the PK4Keeps steering committee without even mentioning PK4Keeps or the steering committee's existence to fellow councilmembers;

—Salem and Menist, who said not a word, and lifted not a finger in behalf of tenants outpriced and displaced by Baxter at Luckey Platt;

—Salem, Menist, and Sarah Brannen, who've supported a racist rezoning resolution weaponizing the word "bodega", supporting the exclusive Innovation District, and currently balkanizing and undermining the waterfront and Local Waterfront Revitalization in behalf of a wealthy, gated community;

—Salem, Brannen and Menist who campaigned on transparency while actually practicing the opaque art of misleading the public all of the time.

"Good Cause Eviction" law doesn't change this city's despicable norm of month-to-month leases, doesn't alter the appalling condition and overpriced state of this City's rental housing, doesn't guarantee decent or affordable housing, nor does it begin to provide statutory help centers for any litigant—tenant, landlord, or otherwise—who has a case pending in Civil Court, but lacks attorney representation.

V. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

On Wednesday, this Wednesday at 6:00pm, right here in Change Point Church, there is a special meeting being convened on gun violence, homelessness and crime in the City of Poughkeepsie. Again, that's this Wednesday, 6:00pm. We have a panel of local organizations that have been working on these issues on the ground in the community who will present on their work and present on paths forward. And then after the presentations, we'll have an opportunity for members of the public to either make a comment or ask questions of the people who have just presented to them.

The information on who you can expect to see on that panel is on our city website, as is the agenda to give you all an idea of who you can expect to be there. We have representatives from organizations such as SNUG, from the City of Poughkeepsie, Police Department, from Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health, from Hudson River Housing and from Mental Health America of Dutchess County. Again, these are all local organizations that have been working on these issues on the ground here in our community in different capacities and who have prepared presentations for us and who are then open to hearing questions of members of the public and anyone else who happens to have them. And, you know, there has been a lot of crime recently here in the City of Poughkeepsie, a number of shootings. I know many and, you know, close to home of my colleagues, of all of you. And this issue is incredibly complex. And I say this every single time, because it is. And so it takes a lot of complexity in order to come to a solution. There's not one silver bullet solution to the issues that we're facing.

Many public commenters tonight made incredibly good points about the issues that we face. You know, the number of unhoused on the streets in Poughkeepsie, taking up doorways, sleeping in parking garages, sleeping wherever they can find shelter, you

know, the garbage and the trash strewn across the streets. And I know that, you know, besides the community organizations that are trying to come up with solutions, trying to tap themselves into best practices, we have, you know, departments here in the City of Poughkeepsie that are trying their best to do the same, to keep the streets clean, to keep the parks looking good, to keep the public safe, you know, but I know that we can do better. I know that the community has been asking for more. We're asking for more. We've been asking for more for a very long time.

You know, Councilmember Flowers had a very heartfelt plea at our last special meeting, which I really appreciated because it was really close to, you know, where she lived in her neighborhood walking into a home of a victim. And nobody needs to see that. None of us need to witness it. This community deserves more. I really take to heart the issue of mental health and, you know, being able to overcome those issues, having a safety net in order to do so, having support services, having a way, a path, you know, to being able to afford housing. All these issues are tied together in solutions between, you know, housing, security and food security, access to mental health services, addiction recovery services, public safety. You can't pull one piece from another. And so, you know, I think we can stand to learn from what's happening on the ground and stand to offer things that we think might work better and might work best for our community. There's not a cookie cutter solution, especially not here in Poughkeepsie in such a distinct and special place. I do want to encourage folks to come out at 6:00pm this Wednesday right here in Change Point Church for this special meeting. And it's not the last and it's not the only. There are meetings that have already happened. There are meetings of different committees and commissions that exist that the public isn't always privy to. And this is just a good opportunity for us as a council to put out, you know, and give an avenue to members of the public to participate. And there's plenty other paths in order to do that. And I really, really appreciate hearing from the public on these issues specifically because none of us up here have the solution. We have ideas. We could suggest different policies. We can try and investigate what works in other communities. But, you know, in order to come to a solution for the City of Poughkeepsie, we need to put all of our minds together. And again, I feel optimistic that we can do it. We really have no choice.

For the young people in our community, for the folks walking up and down the streets. We need to have a safe city and we need to give people the opportunities that they deserve here in the city and keep them here. The census data has been released, the long awaited census data. And with that, I wanted to make a reminder that we have asked for another call for resumes for the redistricting commission that we're putting together for the City of Poughkeepsie redistricting. The deadline for that is August 27th.

If you're interested in serving on this really important commission, you can submit your resume and cover letter to me directly via email. My email is SSalem@CityofPoughkeepsie.com. To the folks who had already applied and gave

interviews, you're still in consideration and we appreciate receiving your interview and your resume and your cover letter. But again, if you, or you know someone who may be interested or you think may be a good fit, let them know that the deadline has been extended. That's extended to the 27th. And this is a really, really important condition that only convened after each census. I encourage everyone to take a look. There's more information on the city website if you're looking for that. And again, if you're interested, send your application materials to my email, which is SSalem@CityofPoughkeepsie.com.

And I wanted to address one other thing. As you can see, we are plus one tonight. I want to welcome Mayor Rob Rolison back to the Common Council meetings. And I want to respond to the request to have him back at the meeting and to welcome back the Mayor's comments that many of my colleagues have made in saying that, you know, when I initially made the decision to take the Mayor from the legislative agenda, I did so thinking that it was the best path for the legislature, regardless of whether it was me on this council or other folks sitting on the council and according to the changes that were made structurally to our government after the last charter update. And so when I did that, I do believe and I still do believe that I was empowering the legislative branch as one should in being able to conduct meetings in a way that improves the flow in the process. I've been getting requests from council members that they wanted to see the Mayor's comments returned. And so I'm not tone deaf. I hear them. I heard them. And I respect the wishes and desires of my colleagues. We all need to work together. And so because of that, I brought the Mayor back on and I welcome his comments starting tonight again here at the meeting. And I want to also offer a path. I have been also getting a lot of questions and comments on specific issues having to do with the City Poughkeepsie that are not necessarily Common Council issues, but more executive branch issues, if you will. And so I do want to offer space within Mayor's comment if the Mayor will address any questions that council members have. And there has been a gap, you know, because I can't answer the questions that, you know, the City Administrator, the Mayor can answer because those are things that they're working on directly.

And so I'm excited to have the Mayor back here at the meetings and I'm ready to, you know, start work forward with this change onto the agenda. And so with that, I will now pass to the Mayor for his comments.

VI. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Thank you, Chair. Good to see you. And good to be here tonight with everyone. I'm going to just kind of start this evening with kind of where we started the Summer, and now we're winding down the Summer as we get ready to head back to school in a couple of weeks. The real big priority for us out of the Spring and into the Summer was making sure that we could get our parks up and running, especially our two

pools, which we did successfully. We had some recruitment issues initially with lifeguards, and then we did a sign on bonus, raised the hourly rate and through a lot of hard work with our partners and the Department of Public Works, Brian and his team, we were able to get the pools open. About two weeks ago I had asked Brian, you know, "where we were with visits to the pools?" And about two weeks ago, it was over 8,000. That's a really good number and just shows you how important it is to have pools, especially two pools. And so the parks in general had just a tremendous amount of usage, the most that we've seen since I've been here, a lot of it, you know, coming out of COVID, and people being able to get back outside. And we've had, you know, some wonderful outdoor events this Summer so far. And I'm going to name a few, but there's been a ton. But, you know, we had River Fest, which came back for the first time in many years. Thousands of people on the waterfront, hugely successful. Jazz in the Valley, which came right after that very well attended. We have a Arts and Fireworks event this coming Sunday. Porch Fest, which was rained out last weekend, will be coming here again to that that corridor over essentially in the 2nd Ward. We've had the Juneteenth celebration, SNUG's Community Day, Pride Parade, National Night out just to name a few, 35 Montgomery Street, we've been working in that coalition on activities. And then also we're getting right back into the thick of all the back to school events that are going to be happening throughout the next couple of weeks. And I know some of the council members are going to highlight that. I didn't want to get too far out in front of that. The city also helped with a football camp, where close to 100 children and young adults participated in that. And that was put on by Roy Waterson and a bunch of volunteers. And we were really, really super happy that that happened.

And I also wanted to talk a little bit this evening about COVID. Now, clearly, we're concerned, as all of you are, about the resurgence in cases throughout different parts of the country. The city is seeing obviously that uptick as well. Right now, there's about 145 reported cases in the City of Poughkeepsie, and that number has been slowly climbing, as with other communities. But obviously, because of the population density, the amount of population here, that number is climbing. We're concerned. Actively involved with Dutchess County and all the partners there to continue the outreach, not only just for vaccinations, but for testing and vaccinations are obviously very important. And to get as many people vaccinated as we can and to make sure they have opportunities to do so.

Now, tonight, I know with the good cause eviction legislation to be discussed and there have been many people from the community talking about the challenges with rents and evictions and the things that go along with that. I wanted to tell you that, so the City of Poughkeepsie received about \$972,000 dollars in COVID-19 relief funds from the federal government. This is not the Cares Act. This is not American Rescue Plan money. This is straight up COVID money that came to the city as an entitlement community. And we have spent \$964,000 thousand dollars of that \$972,000. \$225,000 of that went to rental assistance that we we're using Hudson

River housing as a partner also, and this hasn't happened yet because evictions have not started. We also have expended \$100,000 dollars with legal services of the Hudson Valley, where there will be an attorney through legal services of the Hudson Valley in city court to help individuals from the City of Poughkeepsie through that eviction process. We felt that that was a very good use of that money, because we just don't know how much activity that's going to have, how long it's going to last and also, as it was stated tonight, the complexities for many people to navigate that system even under the best of circumstances. And we heard that sometimes these circumstances are certainly not best at all and they can be very detrimental to the individuals that are going to have to get through that.

I also would like to talk just about road improvements. This year we've been able to essentially double our paving program. We're spending close to a million dollars on repaving city streets. We're going to be repaving 16 city streets. That list may expand and we will make sure probably within the next day or two we're going to publish that list as it's completely refined and nailed down so people will know what streets are going to be done.

The garbage and recycling initiative that was part of our garbage study, which we first rolled that out with those new cans, which Mr. Kazolias only spoke about on the arterial has been a huge success because those cans with secure lids are easier to use. More garbage can go in them. And we have seen a dramatic decrease in the amount of garbage that flows from cans that are properly secured or they're not big enough to begin with. Our expectation is, is we want to expand that to other parts of the city that are having similar challenges.

There was some discussion earlier about the comprehensive plan. There is the first open house tomorrow night from 5:00 to 7:00 at 305 Main Street at the restaurant Temptation. And if anyone can stop by between 5:00 and 7:00, and swing in and take a look at that. I think it would be well worth the opportunity to see as this comprehensive plan study moves forward. It's like a 16 month plan. It's not going to be done overnight. There's going to be a lot of work and a lot of community input, and then it will go to the Common Council for their review.

We also have launched, again, talking about housing, we entered into an agreement with Patten for Progress to do a comprehensive study on housing and all the related issues in the City of Poughkeepsie. Joe from Pattern for Progress, who is really one of the preeminent experts in housing and all the related issues with housing is leading that study. My understanding is, is that that will be completed by the end of the year, which will give all of us, and especially the Common Council, as they look at other ways in which they will discuss housing and potential initiatives, will have that to do that.

The gun violence issue in the city, which the Chairperson spoke about, which

other members of the public have spoken about, it will be the subject of that meeting on Wednesday evening, I can tell you that there is no other situation in my mind right now, which is hurting the city and it's hurting this this population of the City of Poughkeepsie in so many ways. We're not alone. It is going on in many places. We had been meeting regularly with stakeholders. We've had several really good meetings with the school district and other stakeholders and talking about how the City of Poughkeepsie, and other community partners can be helpful as we get ready to reopen schools and where we can be strategically helpful there, where they want us. We're going to do that. A lot of this is going to be probably spoken about, I would imagine, on Wednesday night, but I'm pleased to announce that we're hiring 7 police officers within the coming weeks. 4 of them are lateral transfers and 3 are going to be going to the police academy. That's going to help our ranks because it is depleted, but it doesn't bring us to where we need to be. It gets us to, I think, 83. Our authorized strength is 92, but it definitely is extremely helpful. And then one of the things that has been spoken about here for many, many years and it has been a challenge for this Police Department, is to recruit local. And we made an effort this year to do it in a more comprehensive way, along with other local police agencies as well. And I'm happy to report that we have at least 50, maybe 55 City of Poughkeepsie residents taking the police exam in September. I don't have a number to compare that to because we never did before look at the actual numbers, but what we were able to with Dutchess County as soon as the test, the time to sign up for the test had expired in the county, went through the list, we were able to look at that list and get the city residents from it. And that what we're doing is they're all, I think many of them know this, but they're all being notified that we are paying for them for an online preparation course for this test through an organization in Westchester County, which has been around since, I want to say, the mid 80's. It's called Police Tutorial Services, and they have an online program to prepare you to take that test. We are really excited about that because that really is one of the best ways to prepare yourself to take an exam, which is not easy, and to be able to score in an area where we will be able to then potentially recruit you to become City of Poughkeepsie Police Officers, or if they want to go someplace else, you know, that's okay too. We're doing that and we're obviously making sure that that's free. And then we'll be working with the individuals who then score on the test, get on the list. We won't have that list probably till I would say the Spring of next year.

And then tonight also, I'm glad that we're going to be able to have conversations on this Division for Youth Services proposals, the first time we're going to be talking about it really together. And those are my comments. Thank you.

Chair Salem: Great. Thank you so, so much. And so now I would love to hear, you know, if there are any questions from council members for the Mayor to specifically answer.

Mr. Mayor, I had a question as to whether or not I remember, you know, and the

Chief talked about this at prior meetings and I've seen, you know, two police officers that were walking up and down Main Street in specific core areas of the city are hot spots. And I understand that we are low staff. I don't know if they're still low staffing on the force, but is there any consideration to bring those foot police back to Main?

Mayor Rolison: Yes, and they have been there. The community policing unit, which is essentially which has been doing that even though other shift officers weren't available, have been getting out of the cars. It was something I know we all talked about quite often, pre COVID, pre-retirements. And we had you know, what happens also, show the statistics is probably not as big as it once was, because we're short we're mandating overtime that officers were on part of their regular tours of duty, were to get out of the car, walk certain areas, and was documented in a radio transmission.

But currently the community policing unit, which is the majority of foot and bike activities, is a Sergeant and 3 officers, sometimes 4, depending on availability. But what's happened is recently, because of the fact that the patrol division is as short as it is, factor in the vacation time of summertime is that, you know, there's mandated overtime generally on every shift. And then what happens is you have a serious incident and those ranks get depleted very quickly. But my hope is as we get more staffing and we're going to continue to advertise for lateral transfers that we're going to be able to at some point. And I can't tell you when, because it wouldn't be right to say that is that we would want to bolster the ranks of the officers, because then those are the ones that had been assigned to certain core areas. And at one time, just as a sort of a history is the City of Poughkeepsie back in I want to say the 90's, early 90's, they had community policing and was one of the first community policing units in the Hudson Valley, was 10 officers, which worked outside of the normal shifts. So, yes, and that's obviously important for so many reasons. The presence makes people feel good. It also can, you know, deter things from happening before they do. And also it does, you know, create more interaction because they don't have to run as far sometimes as a regular 911 call would dictate.

Chair Salem: Excellent. Thank you so much. And then I just had one other question specifically about the pilot you mentioned in your comments, the trash recycling. Do you have plans or do you have like a date when that might be expanded to more city residents? Because I've been getting a lot of emails about those cans specifically and just, you know, folks just wanting new cans generally.

Mayor Rolison: Right, so I can let the City Administrator talk a little bit about this. But I did have a conversation today with our Sanitation Inspector, Diane Rose, as sort of a follow up that I had with Mark. I think we've got about 50 cans left over, give or take. And what we want to do, and actually, Mark, you can elaborate on this. I know that the Lincoln Avenue corridor is one that is being looked at where we have similar type challenges to expand it further makes all the sense in the world. And we're looking at a new garbage truck with automation because the other part of this,

too, is, is that these cans are heavier, they hold more garbage. And so now it's less desirable.

In fact, what we don't want are our sanitation members picking these garbage cans up and throwing them in the back, as they would normally do, because they're just too heavy. Our trucks have what they call a tipper, which they can hook it up to the back, but down the road and not that far down the road. We would love to get into the automation aspect for certain streets where that can work, because obviously the can is so important to how the garbage sits in it and is secured with the top. I will also say that we are purchasing better cans for our own city streets. Great. We have challenges ourselves. It's not just on the homeowner or the business owners. That's why also, too, we have the Department of Public Works is picking up garbage from cans 7 days a week. We brought people in yesterday or Saturday, I should say, because we were concerned about people who put their garbage cans out early and we didn't know what Henri was going to do as far as wind. Once we get a can down and it's all over the place where obviously we have a lot more work to do. Yes, I mean, that is certainly something. We know now that it worked as we thought it would, and how we're going to expand it to other locations in the city that need it for sure.

Chair Salem: Great. Thank you so much. I don't know if any other members have questions.

Councilmember Menist: I actually have a follow up on the sanitation and garbage question. You know, Mr. Mayor, I appreciate the pilot project on the arterial. I know the residents in my Ward over there have commented to me that it's much cleaner, it looks better, you know, it's much more streamlined. I think everybody's happy about that. And I think, you know, looking forward to seeing that expanded, but something that we're continuously having a problem with, you know, for this is my first term in office, but since I first took office back in January of last year is trash building up at multifamily buildings, being picked up by private haulers and, you know, I get calls from constituents on a weekly, sometimes daily basis about a property on Carroll street, a property on South Hamilton Street and some other properties as well, where the dumpsters are just overflowing, where the dumpsters have been turned into regular garbage cans. It seems like there's just a lack of enforcement, or there is a lack of an appropriate law that can be enforced.

So, you know, I would ask, what can we do as a council to change the law? And I've asked this before, but I want to know what can we do? Is there something we can pass that'll make it easier for the enforcement? Or is there another resource that you need that you don't have? But why are these continuing to be a problem? Why is trash continue to build up? Why does it not get a violation passed on? And how can it be fixed?

Mayor Rolison: Well, to address 60 Carroll Street, because that is a location that I can speak on behalf of the City Administrator and myself, because we get those emails and they are regularly answered by the City Administrator and the Building Department that that is a property that's been a challenge, but there are a couple of parts of this, too, is that and we work with our private carter's, Royal Recycle Depot Waste Management once some of these properties are identified. What I can tell you in many of these cases, and we had this with a business on Main Street that was continually getting dumped on at night that sometimes the garbage that is put there is not even from the building. And the landlord, the building owner says, "Well, I have a proper receptacle for the amount of people that I have within the building, but I'm getting the garbage from the person around the corner. I'm getting it from people that I don't know." So we're trying to work with these individuals. They do get violations. Diane Rose, who is our Sanitation Inspector, is extremely active, both from an educational standpoint and enforcement standpoint. Our anticipation is we would like to see an additional Sanitation Inspector in next year's budget because the workload is there. And, you know, I don't know how many properties. I think it's over 3,000, I think individual properties within the City of Poughkeepsie, all that are probably creating some sort of sanitation where we're picking it up or someone else is picking it up, that it's a challenge. And I don't necessarily know. And this is not a definitive no on additional ordinances or strengthening. I think for us, you know, in the short term is, you know, additional resources to go after some of these problem properties, but also to you know, the court system has essentially been shut down. We're not even in position to have the courts being engaged in sanitation violations, some building violations, et cetera, that there has been a backlog. And we're hoping that that, you know, that changes around it at some point in time. But I can tell you this, there isn't a day that doesn't go by that we do not, I do not have some type of conversation with someone as it relates to garbage in this city. And I think one of the speakers before was talking about garbage. You can't and I can't legislate personal behavior. You could put 7,000 garbage cans on the street and they'll be garbage right next to it. I have pictures of that in our parks where we've got garbage cans all over the place and the garbage is next to it and the garbage can isn't full. There's not enough eyes on the street to enforce that. It's complicated, but I'm with you. I mean, it is something that is vexing. What we're trying to do and especially, you know, some of the locations that you've spoken about, you know, in your Ward, we're working with the property managers. They're installing better lighting, trying to cut down on the illegal dumping, which is, quite frankly, in some parts of the city is epidemic. We had that with the rental center on Main Street, and we worked very, very hard with everyone there. And that is since, you know, changed around. I mean, that place was a dumping ground for folks and it wasn't fair to the building owners and the property owners that, you know, to be responsible for something that they didn't create. I'm with you, and I'll tell you that if there is something and we can, you know, obviously further discuss this, that the council could do ordinance wise, maybe to create something new to beef something up. I'm with you.

Councilmember Menist: I mean, thank you for that answer, and I think, you know, my next question following that will be if we've got a successful pilot program on the arterial with newer, larger receptacles and we're looking to invest in another truck that can handle larger receptacles, which are the same exact receptacles that I'm seeing at the problem properties that I'm mentioning, you know, is this an opportunity to make a revenue positive move for the city to increase the number of multifamily residential properties that the city, DPW is picking up? And I don't see a reason why we shouldn't have City of Poughkeepsie employees doing something that's going to raise some money for the city versus contractors taking care of that throughout the city, especially when we've got continual problems with contractors not picking up the garbage on time or coming through the city all different days, all different hours and causing problems. So, you know, why can't that be done? How do we make that happen?

Mayor Rolison: It could be done, no doubt. We've kind of started that a little bit, you know, in different parts, but it is an equipment issue for sure. We are looking at acquiring garbage trucks right now. The one challenge that we have found is you can't find them to rent. And because of everything taking so long, the build out time is longer than normal, but eventually we're going to have that. And as we look at investments with some of our federal funds, we can directly tie to public health. Garbage is public health. I think we can certainly set a path forward to do all of the things that you just mentioned.

Councilmember Menist: I just have one other question regarding the funding from the federal government for COVID Relief Funds that you mentioned. You mentioned this funding wasn't from the Cares Act or from the American Rescue Plan, which we'll get into later. You mentioned \$972,000 dollars in COVID Relief Funds, where \$225,000 went to rental assistance. Do you know how much of that money has actually made it into the pockets of renters who needed the assistance or into the bank accounts of landlords who have been starved of revenue? I don't, but I certainly can find that out for you. And that was COVID relief money that we got as a CDBG eligible community in two different funding streams in the middle of the pandemic. I appreciate you don't have the exact number, do we know if that money has begun to flow or if that money is still sitting in a bank account somewhere? Well, it's not sitting in our bank account. All that money has been given out to the organizations that have the direct ability to do that, but I do not know that. Are we receiving regular updates? I mean, \$225,000 dollars is a lot of money to give to somebody to trust that it's going to go somewhere and not have an update.

Mayor Rolison: Well, I don't have it in front of me, and I trust Hudson River Housing that they would be doing that. And actually, they're going to be here on Wednesday, but not specifically be talking about that, but I would be glad to get you that information.

Councilmember Menist: I appreciate that. And then following up on that as well, you spent \$100,000 dollars Legal Service of the Hudson Valley. Thank you. That's incredibly important. I think we should consider possibly putting more money towards that and considering legislation here on the council that would advocate for ensuring that all tenants in the City of Poughkeepsie who are going through the eviction process have a public defender or an attorney that can help them through the process, even when we're not in a COVID epidemic. That being said, what was the rest of that \$970,000 dollar spent on, and I know that might be a better question.

Mayor Rolison: I could give you a brief overview. We partnered with Community Capital, New York for a microenterprise stabilization grant for small businesses that was \$200,000. The rental assistance program, we talked about. Essential goods and food assistance that we gave to various nonprofits that was \$40,000. \$140,000 dollars went to Dutchess Outreach for infrastructure, a complete rebuild and retrofit of their ability to carry on their mission. Salvation Army, \$50,000 dollars. Mental Health, America, \$40,000 dollars. And these are two additional initiatives, Mental health, America, \$40,000 and Hudson River Housing \$30,000 for assistance that is going to be partnering up with our mental health outreach with the Police Department to serve populations that have been affected by COVID dealing with mental health issues and housing issues.

Councilmember Menist: Great. Thank you very much for that update, Mayor. I appreciate it.

Mayor Rolison: Glad I brought it with me.

Councilmember Brannen: Chair.

Chair Salem: Any other questions to the Mayor from council members? Councilmember Brannen.

Councilmember Brannen: Yes, thanks, Chair. I drew the short straw on the microphone tonight. I got a handheld that's only kind of working. Thank you, Mr. Mayor, for the update on COVID. In preparation for tonight, I thought you might give an update on COVID just because it's all over the news that this Delta variant is surging again and we have new guidelines from the County Department of Health about masking indoors. And those of us who have school age children are thinking about this every day and wondering what the next few months are going to look like for our families and the school community in which we are. One of the things I noticed and I brought it up here is that the City of Poughkeepsie has the highest COVID rate in the county. We currently have 145 active cases. I know this is a far cry from the early peak, but nonetheless, it's just really disturbing to see that we have the highest COVID rate in the county. And I wonder if you could share what our vaccination rate looks like, because it's not on the county dashboard and we know that

vaccinations had stalled out and that 90 percent of the people who are in hospitals right now due to COVID are unvaccinated. Could you share what the city vaccination rate looks like right now, and what is being done in order to do vaccine outreach and vaccinations in the city?

Mayor Rolison: Well, I don't have the vaccination rate in the city, but I can say that this because of the density of the population of the city and certainly certain populations which are hard to reach with the information is this is what we were dealing with in the height of the pandemic. The city had the highest numbers then. And what we are doing is that the city, along with other stakeholders in the county, have an extremely active organization that speaks weekly, if not more, on ways to do outreach. We started this back when it was a testing issue and then it became a vaccine issue. And now it is again a vaccine issue with other variants and statistics, certainly. And this is not just specific to Dutchess County, because those are the numbers that we get through our Health Department, that it appears that the majority of people that are hospitalized have been unvaccinated.

John Penney, who is obviously our Community Outreach and engagement person, is heavily involved in this and he has been since this pandemic started. And if there is any particular information that obviously I can't answer tonight, John, certainly is our resource here. And if he doesn't have it, the group that he works with and the Health Department would certainly be able to get you that info. I don't know if that number is actually available. I'm not sure if they are tracking or maybe they are where, you know, the highest numbers of unvaccinated people are. I would say it is probably in the City of Poughkeepsie just because of the difficulty that we had and with getting people tested with some of the barriers that were there. Initial stages of vaccination was also, you know, a challenge. But as what would become the case and certainly continues to be the case is that there really isn't a shortage as there once was of finding a place to get vaccinated. There are some people that just don't want to do it for a variety of reasons. I know some of those people myself. I'm sure there are people that we all know are sitting up here tonight. I don't think it's ever been for a lack of trying. And the information is out there.

We continue to partner with all of our stakeholders, both in Spanish and in English, to try to, you know, let people know that you should do this. But again it's tough, and I really wish that there was a better solution to all of this, but, you know, there was a point in time even before the Delta where I think some members, community stakeholders and others were thinking, well, you know, this may be as far as we're going to get right now and now because of the resurgence of COVID and people are getting it, folks that we know that are getting it, some who have had vaccinations, mostly ones that did not. I mean, there are a few of those breakthrough cases, but it's something that we're obviously focused on. We're hoping that especially as we get into the school year and obviously I understand exactly what you're saying, you know, as a parent of school children, that you're interested in their

safety, you know, their classmates and then of their teachers. I'll try to find that out for you.

Councilmember Brannen: Thank you, Mayor. I do believe that Mr. Penney presented to the Dutchess County legislature recently and he didn't have the data at that time either. If you or someone within the Administration could try to get the data on vaccinations in the City of Poughkeepsie. I do believe that the State Department of Health is tracking it, but they're not necessarily reporting it by municipality. I think if you or somebody requested it, they will probably furnish it to us. I would love to see it. And I don't know if they could share it by ward or by census tract or something so that we could also engage as the council in outreach and support the effort to get vaccines. Because, you know, this is a matter of life or death, unfortunately, for a lot of people.

My other question is about the Fire Department contract. Last year in December, we had the Police contract and the Fire Department contract sunset at the end of December. And I know the Administration was very motivated to get the Police Department contract signed and updated and extended for several years, but we haven't heard anything recently about the Fire Department contracts. I wonder if you could share an update on that. And then also, I know we bid adieu to Fire Chief Johnson. And I wonder if you could share an update about the Administration's search for a new Fire Chief?

Mayor Rolison: On the contract, I can tell you that there had been active negotiations going on without being specific because of collective bargaining. There are certain aspects that are being researched from a financial aspect right now on some proposals. Chief Johnson, who will be leaving at the end of the year, we will be meeting this week with Human Resources to start to think about how we're going to go out and hire a new Fire Chief. And there are some various aspects, both the civil service, which we're going to be discussing.

Councilmember Brannen: Thank you. And then lastly, I wonder on a related note, if you could share an update on the Civilian Review Board Working Group. This was something that came out of the legislation to pass the police contract earlier this year. And in it was a provision to form a working group on a civilian review board. And I wonder if you could share an update on that.

Mayor Rolison: I'm going to give that to the City Administrator who's part of that working group. Thank you.

Councilmember Brannen: Thanks, Mayor.

City Administrator Nelson: Councilmember, Brannen, so we've had a total of four meetings of the working group thus far. We suspended them in July till after Labor

Day because of people's schedules. Just for people watching from home, Councilmember Menist and Councilmember Flowers along with myself are on that working group, along with two members of the PBA, two members of the public and two members of police command. I would characterize it as good dialogue and we're making some progress and we anticipate the meetings will pick up again in September.

Councilmember Brannen: Thank you, Mr. Nelson. Could you share with us your estimated timeline for making a recommendation to this council? Because it's my understanding it would probably be either a local law or an amendment to the contract, which would require action by the council. Having some sense of timeline would be really helpful, and it has been you know, you probably know why I'm asking. It's been quite some time since this conversation started. I believe the original legislation was passed a year ago this month and it was tabled pending these conversations and that was earlier this year. I don't know the exact month, but maybe it was January or February. It's been quite some time. I think having a sense of your goal post would be really helpful.

City Administrator Nelson: Sure, I would say we'd have something done by the end of October, early November. That's our timeline.

Councilmember Brannen: Thank you. Thank you very much.

Chair Salem: Now, we move to reports of boards and committees, starting with a report from our Finance Committee Chair, Councilmember Menist.

Councilmember Menist: Thank you, Chair Salem. Actually, if you don't mind, I did have one more question for the Mayor before moving into the report. Just a follow up, Mayor, to the COVID questions now that the Pfizer vaccine has been approved by the FDA, do you have any plans to require vaccination for city employees?

Mayor Rolison: Not at this time.

Councilmember Flowers: First, I want to thank the Mayor for answering these questions. This is not normally how this works, but it's nice that we're having this dialogue. I wish I would have known that ahead of time, but it is nice, I have to say so.

I do want to mention to you something that the Mayor had mentioned about the vaccine and the work that John Penney is doing. And just to let you know, other council members know, because I know some of you are not at all these events that are out there, but he's been working very diligently in the pop up vaccine sites that are out there in the City of Poughkeepsie, and especially in communities where we're trying to push the vaccine even more so where the numbers are pretty high. I just want to let you know that, you know, that's kind of what's happening. And the thing is, is

that people are scared. They're scared about taking the vaccine for various reasons. And it's up to us as council members to continue to encourage people to take them. And it's not like there's no sites out there available for them there. They're there. And it's just that some people just don't want to take it at this time because of various reasons. And I think once the full approval comes through that maybe people will consider it a little bit more and we can push even more pop up sites to be available. I just wanted to bring that out.

The other thing that came up, too, about the garbage, I was having the same problem, Councilmember Menist that you're having on one particular street, the whole street was that way. Sanitation was out there. They were given the violations. Sometimes what happens is some of these people who are getting the violations are not paying them or taking care of them or they will just take care of it. They don't care about repeated violations. We might want to look at those who are repeat offenders of how we're going to handle those. For me personally, I mean, I do things a little differently, but I was knocking on those doors and I was letting them know that we're going to continue to keep violating. And for some of those landlords that were there, they realized that we meant business and they actually, you know, started making sure that they got another one additional one. And also just to make sure that the tenants take the garbage cans out and not just keep them on the side, because they won't pick them up if they're not brought out to the curb. There was a couple of issues that also to that the landlord doesn't pay. That's why they don't come by and pick them up. Just to stress that if you do not make that arrangements to get it picked up, that, you know, there will be a fine that you have to pay, but we have to figure out if we're going to do it. I guess repeated offenders, like I said, that they're not just paying out one small fine. Right, and I mean, that's why I was asking, you know, what needs to change in the ordinance to make it easier to enforce? Because, I mean, the properties specifically that I'm referring to are multifamily units. It's not a landlord living on site with like 3 or 4 units, it's a management company. And one property, I know the landlord, I believe, lives not in the United States. And so, you know, it's very, very difficult to have those communications. And so that's you know, that's why I'm asking what else can be done? And, you know, are we the hold up and if so, what legislation can be passed? Because, you know, we need to know before we can actually draft it and pass it.

Another question that I have is and you mentioned about this, about allocating maybe additional funds as far as legal services for those are going through the eviction process. I know we have a tendency of throwing things out there and putting legislation out there. But when it comes down to implementing, you know, then we, you know, sometimes not sure how that's being done. I know what the \$100,000 dollars that's going to be set out for legal services, you know, people are going through the court system. How are they able to get that help? Are they supposed to go to I mean, when they come into court, they can make that arrangements? Because I think that's one piece that we really need to know.

Mayor Rolison: When we get that clearer picture of how these evictions are going to go, once the courts are able to do it again, how the court calendar is going to work with this particular lawyer from Legal Services will be here. And we will make sure that once we know how it's going to work, that it will be easily accessible for sure. Because like you said, other than that, you're going to have all the lawyers you want, but you've got to make sure that people know where they can go to get that.

Councilmember Flowers: Thank you, Chair.

Councilmember Brannen: I want to thank you, Councilmember Flowers for bringing up the pop up sites. I wasn't aware of John Penney's participation in those, but it gave me an idea. Mr. Mayor, I wonder if you could share with us not just the vaccination data, but also a flyer or some publication that has the pop up sites and the dates and times. If we could have that on a routine basis in advance, then we can all be helping with outreach. And also, it would be great to hear from Mr. Penney maybe in the next section of Mayor's comments about not just the vaccine data, but also how are those pop ups going? Because I know early on there was one at the church. It was the very first one that was done with some support, I think, by the state. And I heard it went pretty well, but also that there were some vaccines left over at the end of the public site. I haven't heard anything since then about how those pop up sites are going, but it will be great to just get an update on that and understand our people availing themselves of this service? If not, why not? Do we need to boost public outreach amongst us and others? What exactly is needed? Can we sort of diagnose the problem around that? I certainly can get that for you, but I can tell you that all pop up sites are advertised through social media, through the various stakeholders on Facebook, on Instagram. My understanding is Instagram that the County Health Department, along with the jurisdictions where these things are being popped up, is being advertised obviously in advance, but I'll get that info and I'll talk to John Penney about that. That'll be great. I love social media, but I know some folks aren't as avid in the Instagram and Twitter world as others. Maybe some old fashioned outreach would be good, too. Thank you.

Chair Salem: Great. Thanks so much. Thank you, Mr. Mayor, for answering those questions.

And now we will move to the report from the Finance Committee Chair.

VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT, CHAIR COUNCILMEMBER MENIST

Thank you, Chair Salem, and I will keep this incredibly brief for the benefit of all. Mostly, I wanted to make an update tonight to let everyone know that I recently met with the Administration's ARP task force, the American Rescue Plan Task Force, and an intro presentation from Commissioner Finance Commissioner Martinez, where he updated us on the funding that's available for the City of Poughkeepsie. We'll be receiving 10 million dollars roughly in our first payment and another 10 dollars million roughly in our second payment. And that money will need to be spent over the next few years. There will be a lot more information on this. And I also want to thank my colleagues, Natasha Cherry and Yvonne Flowers for attending the meeting. I know the task force was put together by the Administration and I appreciate them seeking council input. I will be working to bring the deliberations on the American Rescue Plan funding into Finance Committee meetings moving forward so that it's a more open process. And I will be shortly scheduling a meeting after I can convene with my fellow members of the Finance Committee to find a date that works ideally for them, so that we can have as many Finance Committee members available. And it will be a public meeting and the idea will be for a hearing for the public to let us know exactly what it is they would like to see done. Now, there are some very specific parameters for how American Rescue Plan funding can be spent, but I think it's very important that we hear directly from the community about how the community believes that money should be spent. That is a major investment in the City of Poughkeepsie. And we need to make sure that money is invested and not just, you know, frittered away on less important projects. I know that the Administration is committed to that, but I am much more interested in making sure that the public can give us all the information and all their opinions before we get too far along in the process.

Keep an eye out for an upcoming finance committee in September. That will be a hearing for American Rescue Plan, funding for community members that I hope to take back to the Administration's ARP task force as part of the outreach efforts that I know that task force will be conducting on its own separately as the process continues to move forward. And this will be a long process over the next two years. This money is not all going to be spent immediately or in one shot or anything like that. It will be an ongoing and open process, but I think it's important that we bring the public in as early as possible. That is all I have for an update this evening. Thank you, Chair Salem, for the time and I will pass it back to you.

2. SOUTHERN WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE REPORT, CO-CHAIR COUNCILMEMBER BRANNEN

Thank you, Chair. I will share that the Southern Waterfront Redevelopment Task Force is a really important and exciting milestone. We just had our second to last meeting recently and we're closing in on our final meeting of the task force

on September 1st. And I want to specifically thank my colleagues on the council who supported this work. I think it has been one of the more rewarding experiences I've had as an elected official working alongside my Co-Chair, Kafui Attoh, and having the support of Emily and also all of the taskforce members has just been really wonderful. And some of the conversations we've had have been really, really thoughtful and productive. And so specifically, I want to thank Councilmember Cherry, Councilmember Lorraine Johnson, Councilmember Randall Johnson, Councilmember Menist and Chair Salem, for your support of this work in forming this task force and also in providing us an extension on the long term recommendations recently. Specifically, we have been working on both short term and long term recommendations. As you know, the final delivery of the short term recommendations was complete. It was shared with this council. They've been posted online. It was passed unanimously by the task force. And a group of us have been meeting with Mr. Nelson to discuss the implementation of those recommendations. And I want to thank Mr. Nelson, the engineer and also Commissioner Chris Gent for all of their support and efforts in implementing some of these recommendations and also for helping us work through the process to date. I don't know if Mr. Nelson has an update to share on the short term reopening, but the gist of it is that we are hoping to get the city will be sending a bid out for a safety railing by Labor Day that will enable the chain link fence to come down and for that site to be open to the public. But we, the Administration is not able to take that chain link fence down and reopen the site until there's a safety railing installed along the bulkhead, which is quite large. It's about 800 feet long and there is a drop down to the water. The need is for a safety railing to go in. And I want to thank Mr. Nelson again for working on those bid specifications, which will be going out hopefully by Labor Day. And then we'll have a clearer sense of timeline for reopening once we have a sense of what those bids look like. I think we all know that there's a backlog in the construction industry due to COVID, and it might be a little bit better, but we're not fully recovered from that. I think we'll have a better sense of that reopening time frame once those bids come in. Mr. Nelson, did I get that right?

City Administrator Nelson: Yes, you did.

Councilmember Brannen: Okay. Thank you. And then the long term recommendations have to do with what happens next. We all know, unfortunately, that there has been a lawsuit filed by the former selected developer. We are hoping that that will be settled and resolved soon. And the long term recommendations are to help guide decision making down the road, hoping for a positive resolution to that lawsuit. And I would encourage all my colleagues to take a look at those draft recommendations that are available on the city's website now. And we will be voting them out on September 1st. And Chair, I'd like to request that the task force be invited to come and present the final report. Also, we

had a really successful survey. We had well over 400 people city wide respond to that survey. I think it's one of the largest response groups that we've had to a city survey in quite some time. And I know Evan Menist and Kafui Attoh did a lot of door knocking and face to face outreach to try and get responses to that. Thank you both.

Councilmember Menist: And I think we would be remiss not to thank Dr. Felicia Watson and Councilwoman Natasha Cherry for making sure that survey went out through the school districts as well.

Councilmember Brannen: Yes, thank you. Thank you so much. I'm excited to be able to present this body of work. It's taken up a lot of my energy and focus the past few months. So, Chair after September 1st we'll be ready to invite the other members in. I've been providing these updates to the council because I'm here every Monday or every other Monday, but I think this would be a really great opportunity for the other task force members to have a voice and to share their perspectives and what the process was like for them and to share the recommendations with you all. I hope we can have that invitation to do a presentation and maybe not under reports and committees and boards, but rather an actual presentation with a Power Point and such. I'm happy to answer any questions, if there are any. And again, thank you to the Administration and also my colleagues for your support on this important work. Thank you.

VIII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 1. Resolution R-21-62**, approving the designation of 112 Mill Street as a local historic site

RESOLUTION (R-21-62)

INRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER PETSAS :

WHEREAS, an application for historic designation pursuant to Section 19-4.5(3) of the Code of Ordinances has been received by the Historic District and Landmark Preservation Commission for the property known as 112 Mill Street; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021 the Historic District and Landmarks Preservation Commission duly convened and voted to recommend the Common Council approve the application and designate 112 Mill Street as a local historic site; and

WHEREAS, the pursuant to Section 19-4.5(e) of the Code of Ordinances, the Common Council duly held a public hearing within Sixty (60) days of the decision of the Historic District and Landmark Preservation Commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 19-4.5(f) of the Code of Ordinances, the Council hereby approves the designation of 112 Mill Street as a local landmark site; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Building Inspector shall immediately cause such property to be so designated on the Landmark and Historic District Map and the Zoning Map of the City of Poughkeepsie; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Chamberlain shall cause such designation to be filed in the Office of the Dutchess County Clerk.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____ .

R-21-62			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 McClinton	Votes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

IX. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

X. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. A COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR SALEM**, introducing Good Cause Eviction Legislation

2. **A COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCILMEMBERS CHERRY, FLOWERS & PETSAS AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR NELSON**, regarding the establishment of the Division Youth Services within City of Poughkeepsie Government
3. **A COMMUNICATION FROM CITY AESSOR TAYLOR**, on the annual adjusted base proportions
4. **A COMMUNICATION FROM ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER JOE CHENIER**, regarding acceptance of a grant from NYSDOT for the City of Poughkeepsie Pedestrian Safety Improvements
5. **FROM KAROLYN BRUNO MARQUEZ**, a notice of personal injury sustained on February 28, 2021.
6. **FROM RICHARD BASORA**, a notice of personal injury sustained on April 28, 2021.
7. **FROM KIRON JACKSON**, a notice of property damage sustained on May 26, 2021.
8. **FROM ANTHONY PANEBIANCO**, a notice of personal injury sustained on June 1, 2011.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Menist to adjourn the meeting at 9:49pm.

Dated: September 7, 2021

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, August 23, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jasmin Nicole Davis
City Chamberlain**

