



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Changepoint Theatre

Welcome to the regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is August 30, 2021, and the time is 6:54 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 - Seven present, two absent at time of roll call (Absent: Councilmember Menist, Councilmember L. Johnson)

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

NONE

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

1. Doug Nobiletti – Academy St. (submitted written comments)

Good evening, At the Council's recent special meeting on crime and homelessness, I spoke in my allotted time at the special meeting last Wednesday, and did not get

up a second time as some folks had. Many of those who followed me had the microphone for a good seven or eight minutes.

This was rather unsettling. I discussed vagrancy and the negative effects it has on the community though did not get to state all the facts surrounding issues I chose to highlight.

Toward the end of the meeting, I was chastised by Debra Long “, and is far from homeless. I did not have an opportunity to rebut Ms. Long and I will do so now.

I have spoken with Connie many times as have police and mental professionals. On numerous occasions I have watched our city resources devote valuable time speaking to her.

I am not a social worker. My taxes support employment of professional social workers and mental health professionals.

Connie lives in a subsidized supportive unit in the Town of Poughkeepsie. She chooses to get pass-out drunk and sleep on the sidewalks of Main St. Why? Because that’s where the liquor store is located. She does not function at home. She has a caseworker who admittedly cannot change her behavior.

If trained personnel cannot change a person’s behavior there is absolutely nothing I as an untrained private citizen can do.

I can tell you that for ten years I gave my storefront at 330 Main up for community use.

For 3 1/2 years David Henningsen & Mary Reynolds ran Gallery 330 from that space *rent free*.

They befriended many of the distressed population which happened to wander in or walk by. They both have very warm caring compassionate hearts. They’ve allowed those in need to store personal belongings as well as clean themselves and take care of personal needs by using the bathroom built for gallery patrons.

My reward for being so community minded was to have my taxes increase significantly after filing a certificate of occupancy.

As a result I had to close the gallery and look for a close-to market-rate tenant. We now have Topanga, an upscale thrift and consignment shop, exactly the type retail business we need in our CBD to serve local residents.

I am not a “Hudson River Housing’, I do not get free money from the state, I have a rather large mortgage obligation that must be paid. As an involved property owner (as opposed to absentee landlord) I see my job is to alert and notify the proper authorities over what happens on Main Street against all common sense: drunkenness, litter, aggressive panhandling, public disturbances, defecation, and

instances of violence.

I have done that often enough that when I call for assistance, sometimes police no longer ask my name.

I've spent the past 23 years in Poughkeepsie trying to improve and help this city by improving its business district and making it function the way it's supposed to. We along with our fellow business/property owners have invested millions working to make our CBD the economic driver all business districts are supposed to be.

I am not here to wipe the behind of someone who is incapable of functioning in a normal manner. Do I have empathy for her? YES, however the sidewalks of Main Street are no place for her in the condition she is in.

I happen to know that we've had about a hundred and twenty "imports" to our community, and by Imports I mean out of county and out of state transplants. We are being used as a dumping ground.

The reputation of Poughkeepsie is that it is a "sweet-spot" to come for freebies, social services and other forms of help.

I am all for helping people in need but the central business district is not a psych-ward where treatment can be given on the street.

Our once-purposeful Hudson Valley Psychiatric Center has been shut down along with most others, through the lack of federal funding way back under the Reagan administration. Now, as a shiny new development site Hudson Heritage, it competes with our city as a development hub as does Eastdale and One Dutchess

On the evening my wife and I were to receive the 2013 Patrons of the Arts Award, I begged our County Executive to not situate the new jail/mental health treatment component in the City of Poughkeepsie as it would be highly detrimental to the progress we've made over the past 20 years. We were assured with a handshake, he would not expand the jail in the city, yet lo and behold that's exactly where it is being built, and also hosting the troublesome temporary housing "Pods".

My recommendation to him was to use the vacant Wassaic Psych-Center as a place where folks in need could walk barefoot in the grass, sit around a campfire at night, tell each other about their lives, go fishing in a stream or lake -live life in nature.

The argument of transport was made. I explained the benefit to our community and tax base far outweighs the cost, plus it would actually help people recover from whatever illness or trauma they suffer, by not being surrounded by the attractive nuisances and temptations which further feed their problems. Prime examples are our local liquor store, responsible for most hard liquor sales and a proliferation of "delis" selling cheap beer, cigarettes and unhealthy snacks. Liquor bottles and

cigarette butts are EVERYWHERE.

Beer cans, not so much- they have a nickel refund. We entice folks to congregate in the core of our city near our social services where many sleep and relieve themselves in storefronts and any spot of greenery, yet many with state funded supportive housing choose to live and sleep on the street because it's the life they know and like. This current system makes those who profess to care for and house these people build wealth off of the system.

Ask the directors of these organizations where they live and how much they make in compensation. We've looked, it is publically available and rather substantial. Few to none live in the city. It would be safe to say they are our largest absentee landlords...and yet we are seeing proposals to build more.

Relocating housing for these souls is not a NIMBY issue, this is just common sense. I live and breathe Main Street 24 hours a day. I speak from experience and observations rendered on a daily basis for while renovating my house on Academy Street I temporarily moved into one of my properties on Liberty Street.

Quite honestly the battle for progress is wearing me out along with many of my fellow business/ property owners.

2. Ken Stickle – Catharine St.

3. Satara Brown – Founder, ROCC Inc.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Now, we move to Chairperson's comment. I want to mention that tomorrow is the deadline, the extended deadline for folks that are interested in serving on the city's redistricting commission. Again, if you're interested in that, please submit your resume via email to myself, my email is SSalem@CityofPoughkeepsie.com. We're asking for resumes, cover letters. Tomorrow's the last day to do that, then we'll hold interviews. We did hold interviews with a previous round of candidates and those resumes are being considered as well as, you know, the interview itself. And in a few weeks we will make moves on, you know, making that commission come to life. The census data has been released. I'm still kind of reading through it myself, but I know that this is a significant period for, you know, opportunity here in the City of Poughkeepsie as this only comes up every 10 years. I want to get moving on that process.

We did have a special meeting last week on the issues of gun violence, homelessness and crime in the City of Poughkeepsie. It was attended by probably over 100 hundred folks or so. It was more than 4 hours long. I want to again thank the presenters that came out and made presentations, you know, so Department of Behavioral and Community Health of Dutchess County, the City of Poughkeepsie Police, Hudson River Housing and SNUG and the other presenters, really critical

presentations describing the work that they do. Members of the public, I want to thank you all for hanging in, for making comments, for asking questions. To my colleagues on the council, I want to thank you for being here and providing the information that you're able to provide and for giving feedback on the meeting itself. I heard a lot of anger. I heard frustration. I mean, I share those feelings. This is you know, as you know, Ms. Brown mentioned, there was a shooting on Friday, 3 days after the meeting. Meetings, while they do gather voices together and give us an opportunity to hear, you know, comments and to ask questions and to coordinate ourselves on another level, it's time to take a more concerted level of action. I know members on this council are considering ways to do that via policy. However, you know, I was taking the feedback that I received at the meeting over the days that elapsed following the meeting. And I heard, you know, it wasn't the most effective format. I agree. It wasn't the most effective format. I think moving forward, while meetings aren't the answer, I do appreciate having a more open dialogue with folks, members of the public with the council members to share their expertise. I'd like to split the topics, as was suggested by members of the public that night and colleagues on the council and have separate meetings, one meeting with dialogue that addresses the gun violence and the crime, another meeting with dialogue that addresses mental health, substance abuse and support services, and another on homelessness and affordable housing. The more I attend meetings in other realms of my professional existence, the more I learn that the best facilitators are professional facilitators. I think another effective change would be to remove myself and any other council members from holding a role of being a facilitator and maybe looking into having, you know, taking cues from the 100 Cup of Coffees dialogue. I know that they have facilitators with that group that can help to coordinate the discussions surrounding these topics and, you know, invite members of the public, council members to take on specific roles during the meeting and to have more of a back and forth dialogue and a solutions based dialogue where we can actually put some stuff down on paper and, you know, then take it away with us and start to make some actual changes, because I'm tired of it, too. This is the place that I love to call home. However, I don't love seeing the level of crime and violence, the level of the unhoused population rising and rising, the level of disrepair on Main Street and surrounding neighborhoods, and just the disinvestment and, you know, the sense of, you know, parts of the city being abandoned. That's not why we're all here. We're all here because we see the opportunity in Poughkeepsie. We trust in and value our young people. We want our young people to have a future here and not have to flee and leave this city. I'm taking this very seriously. I won't lie. That meeting Wednesday was very tough, and I'm sure it was hard for a lot of people. I hear your frustrations and I want to respond to them in a thoughtful way and, you know, make the changes needed and continue to gather folks and to have the dialogue, but then walk away with something, walk away with some course of action that we can, you know, say this is how we're going to implement this specific policy. This is the timeline. This is what's going to make the community better. Hearing from more folks than your seated organizations that have existed for a long, long time understanding there are many organizations working on the ground doing

sympathetic programming and support. So that's, you know what I would be planning and I want to kind of talk with my colleagues to figure out dates, figure out format even further. Again, I really think like taking myself especially out of the role of being the facilitator would help to coordinate and you know, how the meeting run a little bit more smoothly and welcome open more dialogue on those topics.

New York's eviction has ended, and last week I introduced legislation as a communication called the Good Cause Eviction Legislation. And while I'm not necessarily here to talk more on that tonight, I do want to remind folks out there who are having, you know, troubles, paying rent or paying for other kinds of bills that they have because of lack of employment or any kind of financial hardship brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic or anything else that you're experiencing in life, that there is money still available for relief. The New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program, there's still more than 2.7 million dollars for New Yorkers that are having trouble paying the rent. You can find out more information online at OTDA.NewYork.Gov. If you can't hear those letters via the mask, via the microphone, email me, email my colleagues on the council. We can send you that information. Again, there's rent relief and other kinds of financial hardship relief available for renters, and that benefits both tenants and landlords, so everyone gets paid and there's a lot of money still available. However, they can't give you the money unless you fill out an application. And so if you need any help with that, I know, you know, organizations in the community are charged with helping folks weed their way through those kinds of applications. And again, you can reach out to me to figure out how to get that done. But if you need help paying your rent, there's money there for you to be able to pay. And there's a number of other resources still available in the community. A lot of that information can be found either on the City of Poughkeepsie's website or on Dutchess County's website. And that'll do it for my comments for tonight. I'd like to pass to the Mayor for his comments.

V. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Thank you, Chair. We had a pretty busy weekend here in the city, lots of activities centered around children and just general sort of end of Summer fun. I want to thank the organizations Rebuilding our Children and Community for their partnership at the exempts for a school supplies giveaway that was with our own Satara Brown, County Legislator Atkins was involved in that and then CM2 had one here on Saturday partnered with Change Point Church. I know that probably a new business will be other information on additional ones that are going to be taking place prior to school starting. As far as arts and culture and just having a good time here at the end of the Summer in the city was a busy weekend with the arts immersion exhibit on Dongan Place, which was very well attended. That was on Saturday and Sunday and then Sunday night that culminated at the end when it got about 8:17. We had a fireworks display on the river, which

was postponed because we didn't do it in July 4th, and we were able to do it on Sunday night. It was a fabulous display for those who had a chance to see it. Porch Fest also super exciting and cool. I had the chance to swing through there with my wife and the dog on her lap as we were making our way to Westchester to my Goddaughter's birthday. I didn't get to it. Was it last year or the year before? And I have to tell you, I mean, that was something else on all those different blocks in there, so my hat's off to everybody that put that together and look forward to doing that again next year and expanding it and maybe into other parts of the community.

There were some questions that came up at last week's meeting, and I want to just address them because I didn't have all of the data readily available. Probably the most important one, obviously the most important one was on COVID-19. There was a question about vaccination rates. Right now in the State of New York, the vaccination rate for at least 1 dose is 64.7 percent of the state's total population. Here in Dutchess County, the rate is 63.7. In Poughkeepsie, there's two different rates, because the way that this is tracked is by ZIP Code. County Health and the entities within the county structure report to the state and the state reports out publicly and they do it by ZIP Code and that's how they do it. But it is good to note, while you wish that number would be higher for folks that want to get the vaccine, but the rate in the 12603 ZIP Code, which is part of Poughkeepsie, is 63.9, which is actually higher than the county rate, which is pretty good. In the 12601 ZIP Code, it's 54.2. Better than 50 percent, but still want to make sure that that trend's upward up. There was also discussion on access to vaccines. In looking at what we know about what we've been involved in with the county, and I think it was Councilperson Brannen that talked about the or the very first ones that was done on a larger scale was the state did one at Beulah Baptist Church in I think it was February. Yes, it was February 5th. Since that time, there's been 15 plus pop up vaccination sites within the City of Poughkeepsie and then several in the areas outside the city, Dutchess Community College and other places. The other thing also, too, is, is that we've had several locations where we have done educational outreach.

Now, for folks who are interested in getting the vaccination, you can because there is a clinic that happens every Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm, and that's for individuals 12 years of age and older can get the Pfizer vaccine. 18 years and older can get the Pfizer and Moderna if offered. That's at the Family Partnership Center. All you got to do there is make a phone call to 486-3533 or 486-3409 to schedule an appointment. All this information is available throughout all of our social media outlets and the website. In addition, one of the things that has been very beneficial to the county, but specifically the City of Poughkeepsie, is the coalition that was created of stakeholders throughout the county in working on this very problem. It starts with when it was all about getting tested and then we switched, still talking about testing, but really have switched, obviously, into

vaccinations. They have worked long and hard. This is a huge list of people. I'm not going to read all of the names, but I can tell you that John Penney and Stacey Bottoms from City Hall are both members in that. All this information on all of these things has been pushed out. If anybody needs any additional information, certainly you can reach out to us. John Penney is certainly I think probably. He's our go to when it comes to this. Now, Stacey is involved in that as well.

A couple other things that came up at Monday's last meeting was on rent relief. I talked a little bit about our partnership with Hudson River Housing. We gave Hudson River Housing with the county partnered with money there and the city \$180,000 dollars in rent relief. As of just recently, I've spoken with Hudson River Housing actually, this morning. 28 applicants have received rent relief money through the city's program and upwards of \$120,000 have been allocated to those individuals. Legal Services of the Hudson Valley mentioned that as well, where we are funding a full time lawyer in city court. Spoke with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley today. Justin Haines who was in the Poughkeepsie office, who was leading this on a variety of fronts throughout the area, not just in the City of Poughkeepsie. Right now they have a staff member assigned to city court. They're hiring a full time additional lawyer that starts on September 15th. And then the question was, well, do people know about this? All of the individuals that are employed in the court system, including the judges and all of our nonprofit partners, city government, county government, refer to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley when they get any questions on evictions and other things as well. They also have eviction relief funds available, not necessarily from one pot of money, but they also have it for veterans and seniors. There is certainly a way for people to get help. Many of the areas where they would present themselves with these challenges get to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. They do not feel at this point, now, things could certainly change rapidly as a potential moratorium would be lifted and there would be could be you know, obviously cases would appear much more frequently in the city that they are going to be able not only to handle this, but they've got a lot of the areas where they know people go to to get that help that we'll get to them. But certainly when we spoke this afternoon, Justin and I, that that will be something that we will continue to look at to be able to help them in making sure that people know that there is a lawyer in city court that is dedicated to individuals with eviction challenges here in the City of Poughkeepsie.

One other thing, got the final numbers on the pools which closed on Friday. Between the two pools, majority at Pulaski just don't have that breakdown. 8,609 pool visits this Summer, which is a good number, especially because we started a little bit later because of COVID and we ended up around the same time only because of staffing issues. Most of our lifeguards are all going back to school.

There were a couple of questions that came up through the email today on Main Street. The grant that is through HCR. Got some preliminary information on this because I didn't really have a chance today to look into these things that I didn't know about it because it was a busy Monday that there are several types of grants through that Main Street grant program. One is the matching grants for facades and things such as that. There's the Downtown anchor grant, which is a big one that I know other individuals in the city have applied for in the past, then there is a technical assistance grant, which is a small grant, usually in the \$20,000 dollar range that helps organizations or municipalities develop plans to move projects forward. I'll say this about this program and other grant opportunities, say, for the city, city government one of the things that we try to do is be deliberate and strategic in grants, because you can apply for grants, you can get grants, but you can't execute grants. When we don't necessarily have all the staff that we'd like to have and we don't really see, you know, the reason to get things that could go to, say, a private entity, that a private entity, whether it's a nonprofit or a business owner or someone who wants to develop in say the Main Street corridor or other parts of the city are better suited to handle all of the work that goes along with that. We regularly encourage, help and do everything we can to see that individuals can find out about these grants, apply for these grants, get the assistance that they can from us. We're managing right now millions in dollars of grants from a variety of levels, both within many, many departments. Being able to take on more isn't necessarily the smartest thing to do. Then actually now we are in, you know, a full out analysis of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. That grant application is due in about 2 weeks. Planning is working on that. We are always so very optimistic that we will have a shot again this year. I think we've been in the distance, we've gone the distance, we've been in the running, hopefully that is something that we're going to be able to be successful. One other thing that it came through the email this morning was it had to do with a development fee for open space and recreation. My understanding is that the Planning Board shall consider those types of fees based on criteria that is in the administrative code.

I'll end with this, I think you know and all of our colleagues on the council do enjoy having discussions and answers to questions, and I would just ask, is this sort of evolving, I would say now that I'm back on the agenda with all of you is that we need to figure out a way that if there is going to be questions say, on a particular meeting, if there are ways that we can get him in advance other than, say, today and, you know, it was busy for all of us today. Is that this way I'll have an answer versus saying I got to get back to you, because I really don't want to do that. I would appoint that individual council person in the right direction to get it from a department head or someone who knows a lot more about it than I do. And also, you know, not just, you know, prior to a meeting, if there is something that, you know, comes up on any given day and I know it does, because we do get emails from time to time, more often than not from some than others about other

questions that we want to answer and to make sure that we can get the info out and then we can talk about it whenever you want to talk about it. I appreciate the opportunity tonight to speak.

Chair Salem: Great. Yep. Thank you so much. As often as I can I'll try and coordinate questions and send them to you ahead of time because I understand that that would work better.

I do want to offer a space if members have questions for the Mayor on anything that he has discussed tonight in his comments or anything that they would like to ask that there was no discussion on. Councilmember Brannen.

Councilmember Brannen: Yes, I want to first thank the Mayor for your comments tonight and for the follow up on the vaccination rate conversation that we had last week. I just am very grateful for the time and effort that you and other members of the Administration put into gathering that information. 54 percent, it's not as low as, say, Mississippi or Louisiana, but it's still pretty low. I would love for us as city officials to get together and not just. I know we're doing individual outreach. I know Mr. Penney's doing outreach. I think to the extent that each of us as individuals has our own networks and our own constituencies, for us to go out and tell our folks, this is why I got vaccinated and this is why I think you should, too. I think if we can get enough people to do more of that one on one outreach within their friends, families, neighbors. I've been on the campaign trail enough times and we go door to door knocking to turn people out to vote. They have always said that's the most effective way to get people motivated, is just to talk to them face to face.

I think we could use that same strategy here as elected officials, just one on one face to face, getting as many people out to get vaccinated as possible. My questions were mostly answered. One of them was an update on the recent shootings. I think it was Mr. Stickle who brought in some information about the arrest or I don't know if they were arrests pursuant to the shootings or just gun possession. This is a really, it's a hard issue for so many reasons. We know that we're talking about violence, but violence is a symptom, right? We're not going to get at root causes with enforcement, but we still need enforcement to stem the tide. I wonder if you could share, have there been any arrests associated with the 17 shootings this year?

Mayor Rolison: Yes, there has. And one of the things that we have to understand, is that sometimes arrests are made that are not directly related. Someone is being charged with committing that particular violent act, but who may have been arrested for the possession of a handgun, who may have been arrested for another incident that eventually you may tie to one of these shootings.

When you talk about the amount of guns have been taken off the street and there were some handgun arrests just recently, there is a good chance that some of those guns were used in these shootings. I can tell you this is that there are a handful and I don't want to just say this kind of a handful, but it's not like there are numerous, numerous shooters out there. Many of these shootings are tied to a distinct group of individuals who are using violence and using guns to settle disputes related to a variety of things. There are gangs and crews and sets that use this type of violence and intimidation to settle those types of problems that they have with one another or they think they have one another. As I think the Chief has said before, but I'll say it again is that things that happen in other cities and communities can be directly related to things that happen here, because not every single person that we know is committing these types of crimes that we think that our community types of crimes aren't necessarily always from Poughkeepsie. It makes it challenging. The thing is that is encouraging and it's not encouraging enough to make us feel all that great is that because of our partnerships with our sister agencies and the task force that operates within the city, is all of this evidence, you know, was analyzed and sometimes it takes months to tie a gun to a particular incident where shell casings have been recovered from a person, from the street, from their homes. What I would say is that we need to continue to pray and keep in our thoughts the individuals who have become victims and including the one, you know, from Friday night.

While we are hiring additional Police Officers in the next week, you know, was that going to make a measurable difference right away? No, it's not. I think one of the things that we heard in this meeting of last week is, you know, community involvement, community outreach and people supporting one another, but also trying to hold individuals accountable for these things, because many times and we don't need to debate this, is that people don't want to cooperate. The victims themselves have serious injuries and individuals who are present at some times when someone has lost their life. It's very difficult to put these things all together quickly. It's painstaking. It takes time. I do know because I have these conversations on a daily basis, that progress is being made on many fronts, but there is so much more work to do.

Councilmember Brannen: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I appreciate the holistic approach. I was wondering if you could tell us how many arrests have been made for those 17 shootings specifically?

Mayor Rolison: I don't have that, but I can certainly get that for you.

I want to caution you is that do not take arrest data directly relating Person A with the shooting of Person B, because, again, many times these individuals are arrested on other charges related to other acts of violence maybe not even in this community where all of a sudden things slow down and quiet down. That's how it

goes. If you remember the arrest that was made, two arrests that were made several weeks ago on Main Street, where one of the individuals was wanted for homicide in Paterson, New Jersey, actually was a warrant for a murder of a young man in Patterson. The shooter, we believe, was in the City of Poughkeepsie doing very similar things. The other individual who was with them, they were both in possession of handguns. After those two individuals were removed from the street, there was a lull. I can't say any more than anybody else can, definitely contributed to them, but there was a lull in shots fired calls, which then at some point in time changed. Statistically and again, you think about getting guns off the street. We've all said this. Every community says this. One less gun on the street, whether it's through an arrest or not, means that there is one less chance that that gun can be used to hurt someone. That's another part of what the Police Department is doing comprehensively to take those guns off the street. I will get you the data, but I don't want to give anyone any false hope that that data is going to make us feel any better. As far as saying this person shot that person, it's just not that easy, given the complexities of these cases.

Councilmember Brannen: I hear that. And you being a Police Officer would know better than I those complexities of enforcement. I am thinking of it as a resident and a mother, and the question of justice, if someone is shot, they want the person who shot them brought to justice, and that's the framework in which I'm thinking and asking these questions.

The last question was about the development fee for open space. It's really just more of a comment to my colleagues. This has come up in the last couple council meetings and also in the Southern Waterfront Task Force meeting development fees for open space. I know Councilmember Cherry has talked about development fees in the past. I spoke to Mr. Ackermann and found out that we do have a development fee already in the books. It's \$5,000 dollars per unit. When a developer is building an apartment building, they have to pay the city \$5,000 dollars per unit when that new building is constructed and that goes to open space and to support recreation. The board that reviews that is the Planning Board. And Mr. Ackermann was not sure to what extent that development fee was being implemented or enforced. I was hoping you could look into that for us and bring us some information on that, because it's come up a few times in the past few weeks. It would be great to know. I didn't even know. I'm embarrassed to say I didn't even know, as I guess I'm a newer council member than some folks on here. I was not aware that we had a \$5,000 dollar development fee on the books. It would be great to know how many of those fees have been collected, because there has been so much development. And I know some of the properties on the waterfront, the Dunton Lumber property, I believe was probably exempt because they built the promenade, but other folks may have paid them or not. It would be great to know. And then also, if you could share the DRI application with the council members, that would be great so that we could see what projects

you are including in the Downtown Revitalization Initiative application. I know I participated my first year in a few meetings in the DRI, and it's been disappointing, to say the least, that we haven't gotten it yet. I hope this is our year. Thank you.

Mayor Rolison: Will do.

Chair Salem: Great. Thank you so much.

VI. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution R-21-63, approving the annual Adjusted Base Proportions

**RESOLUTION
(R-21-63)**

INTRODUCED BY CHAIR SALEM

BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached certificates of Base Percentages, Current Percentage, Base proportions and Certificate of Adjusted Base Proportions for the levy of taxes on the 2021 Assessment roll are hereby approved in accordance with Article 19 of the Real Property Tax Law.

**SECONDED BY
COUNCILMEMBER _____.**

R-21-63						
			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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-21-64, accepting a grant from NYSDOT for the City of Poughkeepsie Pedestrian Safety Improvements**

**RESOLUTION
(R-21-64)**

AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING IN THE FIRST INSTANCE 100% OF THE FEDERAL-AID AND STATE “MARCHISELLI PROGRAM-AID ELIGIBLE COSTS, OF A TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

INTRODUCTED BY COUNCILMEMBER: CHAIR SALEM

WHEREAS, a Project for the City of Poughkeepsie Pedestrian Safety Improvements in the City of Poughkeepsie, PIN 8762.03 (the “Project”) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of 100% Federal funds and 0% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Poughkeepsie desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the costs of construction and construction inspection, and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has determined that this Project is in the best interest of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie hereby approves the above-subject Project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie approves and supports the Agreement attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully set forth; and be it further

Clerk, City of Poughkeepsie

R-21-64			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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.

- 3. Resolution R-21-65**, introducing a Local Law establishing a Division of Youth Services and setting a Public Hearing

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW
AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC
NOTICE AND HEARING
(R-21-65)**

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS CHERRY, FLOWERS AND PETSAS:

BE IT RESOLVED, that an introductory Local Law, entitled “Local Law Amending Section 9.01 of the Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie, New York”; 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 6:00 o'clock P.M., on Tuesday, September 7th, 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 _____.

R-21-65			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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.

- Resolution R-21-66**, approving and endorsing an application from Hudson River Housing and endorsing an application from Hudson River Housing to NYS Homes and Community Renewal for Funding under the New York State Main Street Program

**RESOLUTION
(R-21-66)**

APPROVING AND ENDORSING AN APPLICATION FROM HUDSON RIVER HOUSING TO NYS HOMES AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE NEW YORK STATE MAIN STREET PROGRAM

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____ **CHAIR SALEM**

R-21-66						
			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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

VII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

VIII. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **A COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR NELSON**, authorizing Sale of City Owned Property at: 171 Cherry Street, Tax Map No. 6161-31-318779
2. **A COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR NELSON**, authorizing Sale of City Owned Property at: 38 High Street, Vacant Lot: 6162-62-218257
3. **FROM DEAN HANNIFORD**, a notice of personal injury sustained on May 15, 2020.
4. **FROM DELORES DEVONSHIRE**, a notice of property damage sustained on May 26, 2021.
5. **FROM LAURA K. JACKSON**, a notice of property damage sustained on July 8, 2021.
6. **FROM STEVEN HORNING**, a notice of property damage sustained on August 11, 2021.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Flowers to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm.

Dated: September 10, 2021

Official Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of August 30, 2021

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, August 30, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmin Nicole Davis
City Chamberlain

