



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 26, 2019 6:30 p.m.

City Hall

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL- 8 Present 1 Absent (Councilmember Cherry)

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

CCM 4/15/19						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Finney	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

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

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

**Constantine Kazolias-47 Noxon Street
Suprina Troche 3 Delafied Street
Sean Hemmerle 20 Crescent Road
Carmen McGill 78 Glenwood Avenue
Warren Jones 32 North Clover Street
Andres San Millan-Cuneen Hacket
Laurie Sandow- South Grand Avenue**

V. CHAIRWOMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Chairwoman Finney- gave her time to Mayor Rolison.

VI. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Rolison- Since we last met, there have been several things of note. On Friday I attended a summit at Harvard University in Cambridge. It was at the Harvard Kennedy School, where there was some equality Poughkeepsie Summit on Education. This was a two day summit of community stakeholders both from the school district and other individuals from nonprofit and other educational institutions that came together to talk about a wide variety of initiatives for children in the City of Poughkeepsie. There's going to be a lot more coming out of that, the two day meeting, and we'll report that as we get it. I can tell you that it was a very it was a great opportunity to talk about education in the City of Poughkeepsie, and the partnership between so many institutions outside of the school district that are working with the school system and improving educational opportunities for our children. And again I look forward to those continued conversations.

Because I was in Cambridge on Friday, Councilman McNamara represented the city to welcome back Navy Veteran, Tom Zurhellen, who walked across the country and arrived back here in Dutchess County on Friday afternoon, to look like pretty big amount of fanfare. Matt. For Tommy, who is post commander of the VFW on Parker Avenue, and I also now see that has garnered national attention for his efforts on behalf of veterans.

Also on the Walkway Over the Hudson this weekend there was the kickoff to their 10th anniversary celebration. The walkway is celebrating its 10 year anniversary this year, and close to 1500 motorcycles came across the walkway, and probably a once in a lifetime type of event that probably will never happen again. And it was amazing to see motorcycles that came from all over the Tri-State area to help raise moneys for a couple of things: One was for veterans, they had an event down at motorcycle PDA down in Newburgh where they were doing that. And moneys were also raised for the walkway to purchase a tram, which will be able to transport people with limited abilities on the walkway, which currently can be very difficult for some, and if not impossible for others. So that was that was just an amazing event.

Also, on Saturday the Beulah Baptist Church had its Community Day at the church, and there were a couple hundred people there. All individuals volunteering and it was really it was really great. And I know that I stopped by after the walkway event, and saw Councilmember Flowers there, Liz Jackson and others participating in that.

We had a meeting last week, a very productive meeting, with staff members from Senator Kirsten Gillibrand office Lisa Hofflick, who is the district coordinator, and John Cardinal who is one of our Chief Economic Advisers came in to speak to us on infrastructure and economic development in the city of Poughkeepsie. The Senator is sponsoring a bill on infrastructure, and obviously we hope that sees some progress in Congress, as it would help many communities and also obviously the City of Poughkeepsie with infrastructure.

One additional item today we had our kickoff meeting on our Consultant Study of Sanitation Services in the city of Poughkeepsie. We were funded by Dutchess County for Department of Public Works studies. And we concentrated with sanitation, so the consultant as Municipal Solid Waste Consultants, which has a long track record of these types of studies, and actually back in 2010 Municipal Solid Waste Consultants were picked by the county to study Resource Recovery Agency activities and services. And now they're doing that for us.

Also, just in addition I didn't want to leave this out the city has launched its outreach for our new emergency notification system called "hyper reach", where you can sign up now for alerts both text messages and phone calls to text message your cell phone calls your cell phone and your home phone and a variety of different things that the city can notify you about.

We've been using it now for a while and been using it with callbacks for. Department of Public Works, Police and Fire as matter of fact I got one on Friday night for the fire on 44 Smith Street which this system is working great so now we're expanding it to the public.

And if you need additional information on it you can go to the website, which has a copy of the press release and gives you this long link to actually sign up. I went on it and it's there, and then also you can call in to get additional information at 845-205-0596. And the services are available in English and Spanish. We're really excited about hyper reach. It's going to really help the city to notify specific areas, specific wards. It breaks down even to streets if necessary for everything from water main breaks, to other types of emergency notifications, which hopefully we're not to do too many. But we're really encouraged by this new outreach that the cities can provide.

Thank you Madam Chair.

VII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

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

The City of Poughkeepsie
New York

John Taylor
Assessor
jtaylor@cityofpoughkeepsie.com



62 Civic Center Plaza
Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 12601
845-451-4039

August 19, 2019

COMMON COUNCIL
City of Poughkeepsie

CC Meeting: August 19, 2019
Resolution: R19

Re: Adjusted Base Proportions

Chairwomen Finney and Councilmembers,

Annexed hereto please find proposed Resolution: R-19 regarding the above referenced Adjusted Base Proportions. The base Homestead and Non-Homestead proportions for 2019 are required for The Poughkeepsie School District and City of Poughkeepsie tax preparation and billing.

Annual adjustments to the base proportion are required in order to account for changes during the assessment year due to construction, demolition, change in exempt status and/or change in NYS Classification Code. The method of calculating adjustments are prescribed in RPTL 1803-a, and overseen by NYS Office of tax and Finance.

I will present myself at your Council Meeting of August 19, 2019 to provide detail and answer questions. Your affirmative action at that time is requested.

Respectfully,

John Taylor
Assessor
City of Poughkeepsie

* RP-6701		NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES		08/08/19	
		Bldg 8A - WA Hartman Campus Albany, NY 12227			
		CERTIFICATE OF BASE PERCENTAGES, CURRENT PERCENTAGES AND			
		CURRENT BASE PROPORTIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19, RPTL, FOR THE			
		LEVY OF TAXES ON THE 2019 ASSESSMENT ROLL			
* Approved Assessing Unit		City of Poughkeepsie, 131300		CERTIFICATION	
* Name of Portion		City of Poughkeepsie, 131300			
* Section I		DETERMINATION OF BASE PERCENTAGES			
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	
	2006	2006	Estimated	Base	
	Taxable	Class	Market	Percentages	
	Assessed Value	Equalization Rate	Value	(C/sum of C)	
			A/(B/100)		
* Homestead	1,663,288,662	100.00	1,663,288,662	70.8173	
* Nonhomestead	685,416,541	100.00	685,416,541	29.1827	
* Total	2,348,705,203		2,348,705,203	100.0000	
* Section II		DETERMINATION OF CURRENT PERCENTAGES			
	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	
	2018	2018	Estimated	Current	
	Taxable	Class	Market	Percentages	
	Assessed Value	Equalization Rate	Value	(G/sum of G)	
	including		E/(F/100)		
	Special Franchise				
* Homestead	1,032,088,630	100.00	1,032,088,630	64.2777	
* Nonhomestead	573,582,687	100.00	573,582,687	35.7223	
* Total	1,605,671,317		1,605,671,317	100.0000	
* Section III		DETERMINATION OF CURRENT BASE PROPORTIONS			
	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)	
	Local Base	Updated	Prospective	Adjusted	
	Proportion	Local Base	Current Base	Base Proportion	
	for the	Proportion	Column (L)	used for	
	2006		Column (L)	Prior Tax Levy	
	Assessment Roll		Proated	Base Proportion	
			to 100.00	and Prospective	
				Current	
* Class		(J/H/D)	(J/sum of J)	(M)	(N)
				% difference	Maximum
				between prior	Current
				Adjusted	Base Proportion
				Base Proportion	Base Proportion
				((K/L)*100)	(L*1.05)
* Homestead	65,20864	59.18891	58.15479	57.38382	56.15479
* Nonhomestead	34,79146	42.58787	41.84521	42.61618	41.84521
* Total	100.00000	101.77479	100.00800	100.00000	100.00000

I, the clerk of the legislative body of the approved assessing unit identified above, hereby certify that the legislative body determined on _____ that the legislative body determined on _____ base percentages, current percentages, and current base proportions as set forth herein for the assessment roll and portion as identified above.

signature
title
date

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES Bldg 8A - VNA/Herman Campus Albany, NY 12227										08/08/19
RP-6703 CERTIFICATE OF ADJUSTED BASE PROPORTIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19, RPTL FOR THE 2019 ASSESSMENT ROLL										
Approved Assessing Unit City of Poughkeepsie, 131300 Name of Person City of Poughkeepsie, 131300 Reference Roll 2018 Levy Roll 2019										
DETERMINATION OF PORTION OF CLASS NET CHANGE IN ASSESSED VALUE DUE TO PHYSICAL AND QUANTITY CHANGES EQUALIZATION CHANGES AND COMPUTATION OF CLASS CHANGE IN LEVEL OF ASSESSMENT FACTOR										
Section I	(A) Total Assessed Value on the Reference Roll (excluding Special Franchises)	(B) Total Assessed Value of Physical and Quantity Increases between the Reference Roll and Levy Roll	(C) Total Assessed Value of Physical and Quantity Decreases between the Reference Roll and Levy Roll	(D) Net Assessed Value of Physical and Quantity Changes (B-C)	(E) Surviving Total Assessed Value on the Reference Roll (A-C)					
Homestead	5,004,800	3,854,400	1,170,200	1,044,489,273						
Nonhomestead	5,284,350	5,942,250	(657,900)	521,351,452						
Class										
Homestead										
Nonhomestead										
Class										
Homestead	43,799,999	2,577,908	41,422,389	1,039,666	1.0403					
Nonhomestead	15,773,812	4,278,875	11,494,937	1.02205	1.0224					
Section II	COMPUTATION OF PORTION CLASS ADJUSTMENT FACTOR									
(J) Taxable Assessed Value on the Levy Roll including Special Franchises	(K) Taxable Assessed Value on the Levy Roll at the Reference Roll Level of Assessment	(L) Assessed Value of Special Franchise on the Levy Roll at the Reference Roll Level of Assessment	(M) Total Taxable Assessed Value on the Levy Roll at the Reference Roll Level of Assessment (K+L)	(N) Taxable Assessed Value on the Reference Roll	(O) Class Adjustment Factor (M/N)					
Homestead	1,035,939,195		1,035,939,195	1,032,098,930	1.003					
Nonhomestead	517,506,197	71,274,585	588,780,782	573,592,887	0.9982					
Section III	COMPUTATION OF ADJUSTED BASE PROPORTIONS									
(P) Current Base Proportions	(Q) Current Base Proportions adjusted for Physical and Quantity Changes (P-O)	(R) Adjusted Base Proportions	(Sum of Q)							
Homestead	58.15479	58.37176								
Nonhomestead	41.84521	42.95395								
Total	100.00000	101.32571								

I, the clerk of the legislative body of the approved assessing unit identified above, hereby certify that the legislative body determined on _____ base percentages, current percentages, and current base proportions as set forth herein for the assessment roll and portion as identified above.

Signature _____ Title _____

Official Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of August 26, 2019

Local Adjustments to the Adjusted Base Proportions

The municipality may make certain adjustments to the ABPs.
See Subsection 1903-4(c) of the Real Property Tax Law.

City of Poughkeepsie

2019

STEP 1 - Subtract the Adjusted Base Proportion for the Homestead Class from the
Current Percentage for the Homestead Class

Current Percentage for Homestead Class (part H of form RP-6701)	64.27770
Adjusted Base Proportion for Homestead Class (part R of form RP-6703)	57.60804
Difference	6.66966

STEP 2 - Take the Difference computed in STEP 1 and multiply it by
10%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 75%, 80%, and 90%.
Add this amount to the Homestead Adjusted Base Proportion.

Select a Percentage	Amount to be added to Homestead ABP	POSSIBLE TAX SHARES WHICH MAY BE ADOPTED	
		Homestead	NonHomestead
		57.60804	42.39196
10%	0.66697	58.27501	41.72499
20%	1.33393	58.94197	41.05803
25%	1.66742	59.27546	40.72454
30%	2.00090	59.60894	40.39106
40%	2.66786	60.27591	39.72409
50%	3.33483	60.94287	39.05713
60%	4.00180	61.60984	38.39016
70%	4.66876	62.27680	37.72320
75%	5.00225	62.61029	37.38971
80%	5.33573	62.94377	37.05623
90%	6.00270	63.61074	36.38926
100%	6.66966	64.27770	35.72230

**RESOLUTION
(R 19-65)**

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER RANDALL JOHNSON

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 2019 Assessment roll are hereby approved in accordance with Article 19 of the Real Property Tax Law.

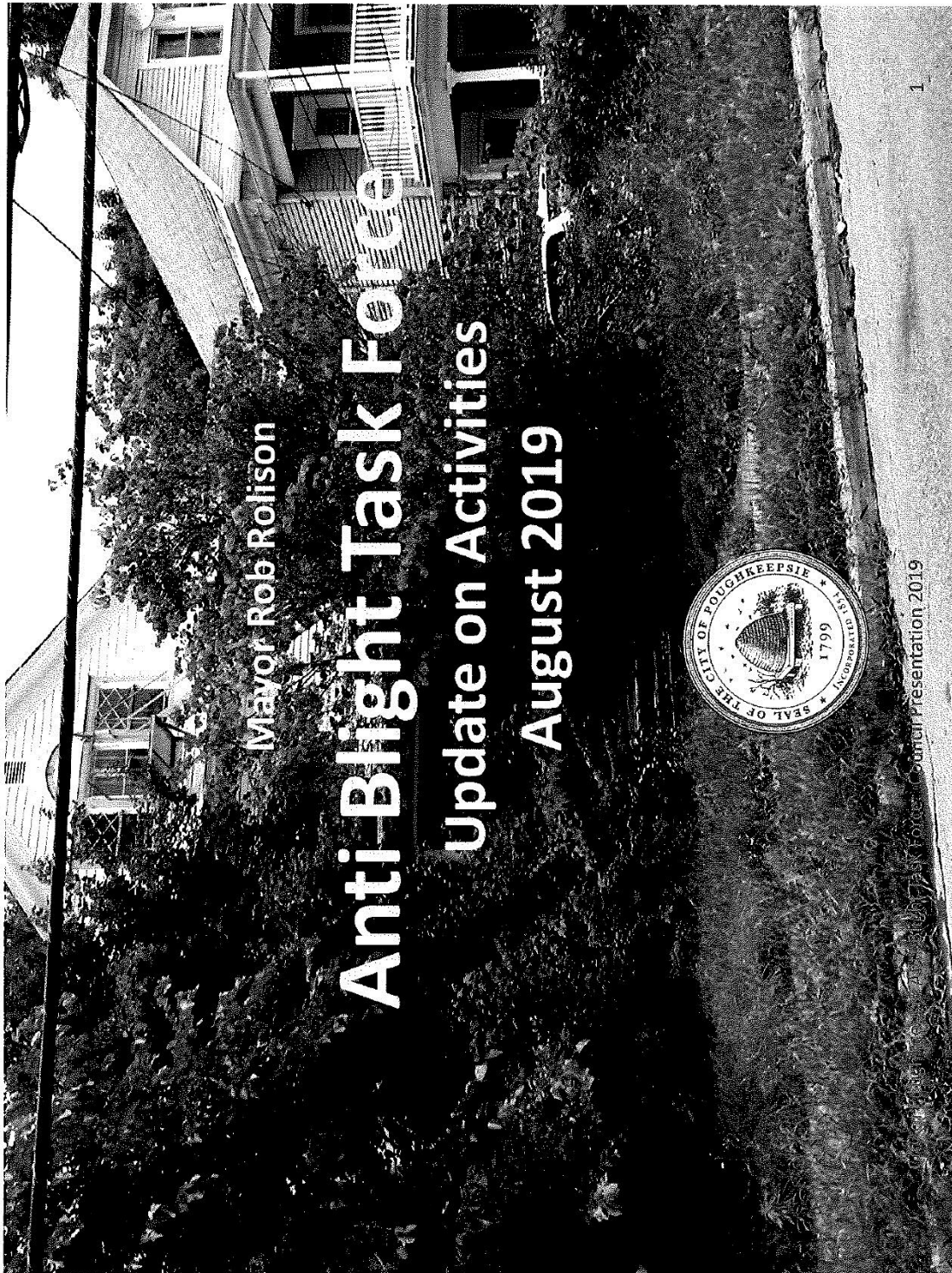
SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LORRAINE JOHNSON

R 19-65						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Finney	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

VIII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

IX. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

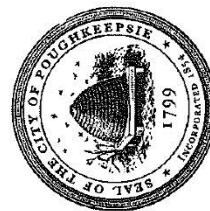
- 1. FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR NELSON**, a communication regarding the Blight Task Force.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Anti-Blight Task Force is to implement strategic solutions to the problem of urban blight in the City of Poughkeepsie. Blight in American cities comes in many forms, the root of which are vacant and abandoned buildings, both residential and commercial. Employing a multifaceted approach, the Anti-Blight Task Force coordinates city actions such as code enforcement, education, demolition, acquisition and sale, tax lien management and property cleanups with overarching policy objectives which seek to return properties to the active tax rolls, build community wealth, promote housing affordability, stabilize neighborhoods and boost resident homeownership.

Seeking synergies between the daily role of government and the missions of its housing partners and anchor institutions, the Anti-Blight Task Force will foster innovation and collaboration, strengthen community engagement, and drive a results-oriented program that provides measurable benefits to all who live, work or play in the City of Poughkeepsie.

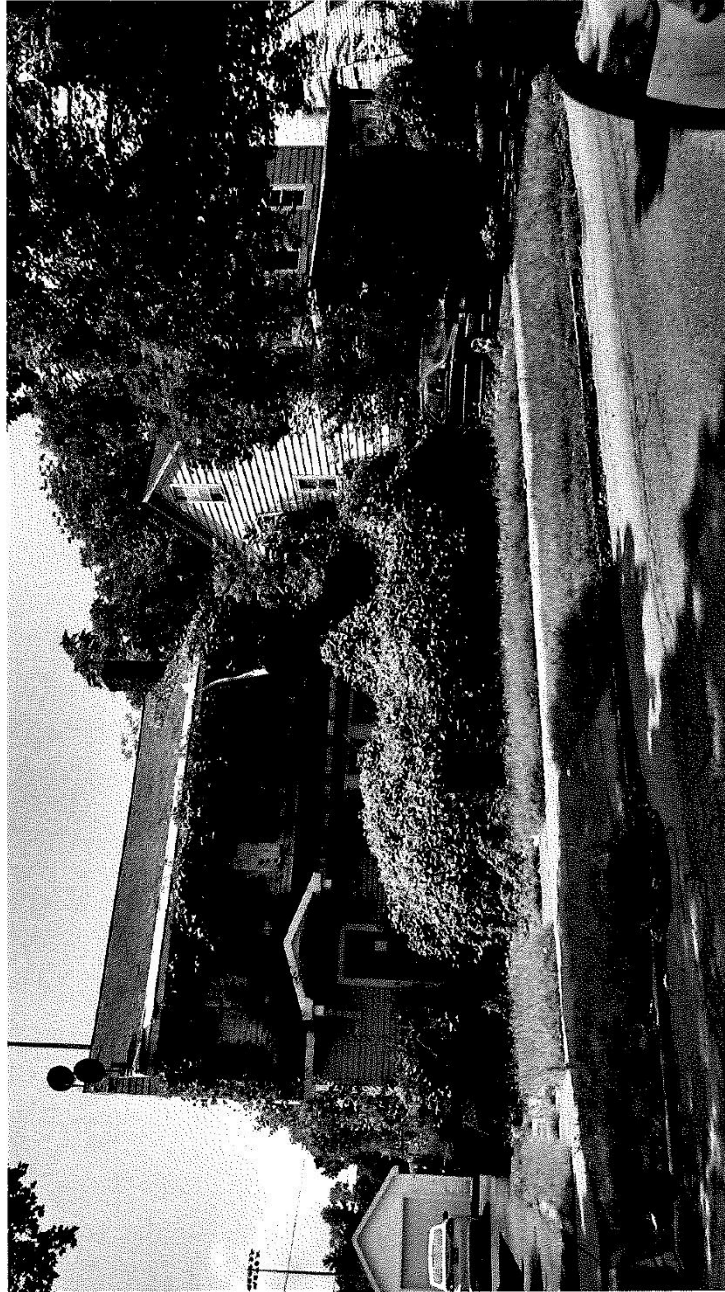


Tracking Vacant Properties

- Currently there are **482** active Vacant Properties.
- City has tracked **764** total properties since 2017.
- Single tracking list (iWORQ) implemented Fall, 2017.
- Previously there were multiple lists generated by the various departments not accessible except by printed lists.
- This current list changes daily. Building Dept adds the majority of new entries based on complaints and inspections.

-
- Monthly assessments are conducted in order to keep the list accurate.
 - Outreach to property owners is conducted on a continual basis.
 - New technology allows users in the field real time access to the iWorqs database.
 - Multiple city departments now share one resource for data management.

55 Forbus St (2015)



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

55 Forbus St- 2019



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

2016 Zombie Grant funded Start Up of Anti-blight Task Force

- Implemented Fall of 2017.
- \$150,000 over two years.
- Partially funded several positions in Building & Sanitation Departments.
- Provided funding for new tracking software (iWORQ). Also provided for IT and software enhancements to support the new software.
- Included funding for outreach to homeowners at risk of foreclosure.

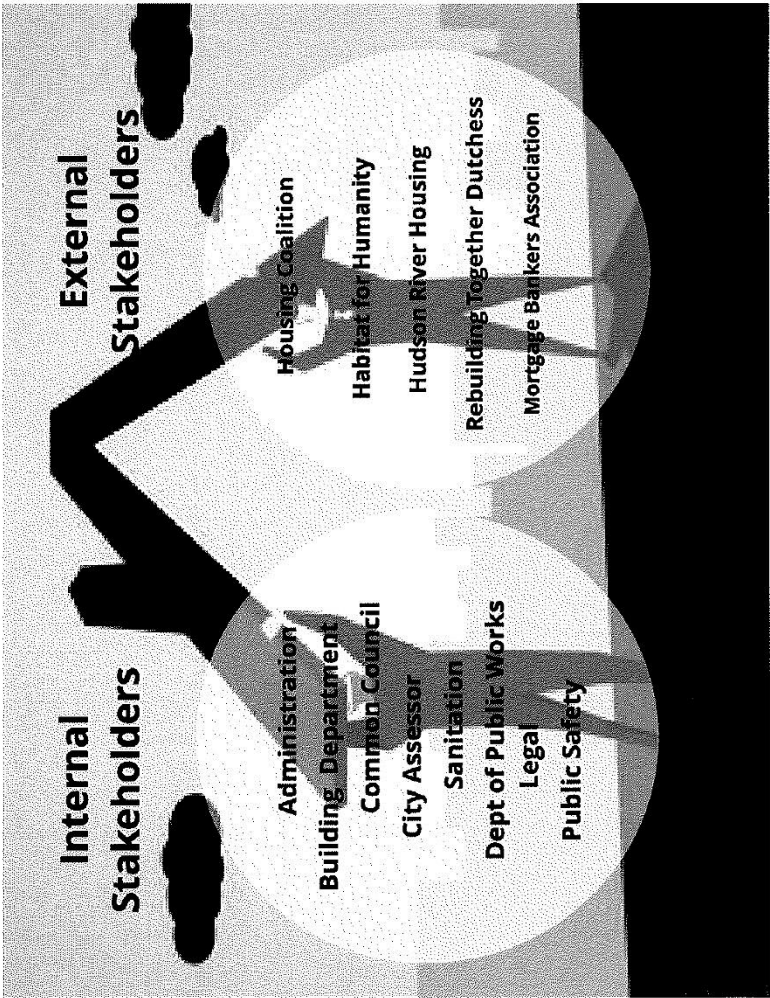
Lessons Learned from first Zombie Grant Guide our Implementation of Zombie 2.0

- Staffing is critical for inspections and assessments.
- Oversight of grant activities and coordination of resources was needed (Coordinator).
- Inspections and violation notices increased workload in Corp Counsel (PT legal help).
- Locating owners was difficult (skip tracing).
- Shortfall was Code Enforcement tracking (move to iWORQ).

2019 Zombie 2.0 Grant

- \$200,000 Award for an 18 month period (begins July 1st).
- Continues to fund several positions in Building & Sanitation Departments.
- Continues to provide for software and IT support including deployment of handheld devices for enforcement and access to database.
- Provides PT legal assistance to Corp Counsel for prosecution of pending cases.
- Provides for new skiptracing, title reports and outreach to homeowners for early intervention.

Composition of the Task Force



Demolition may be necessary if building is unsafe

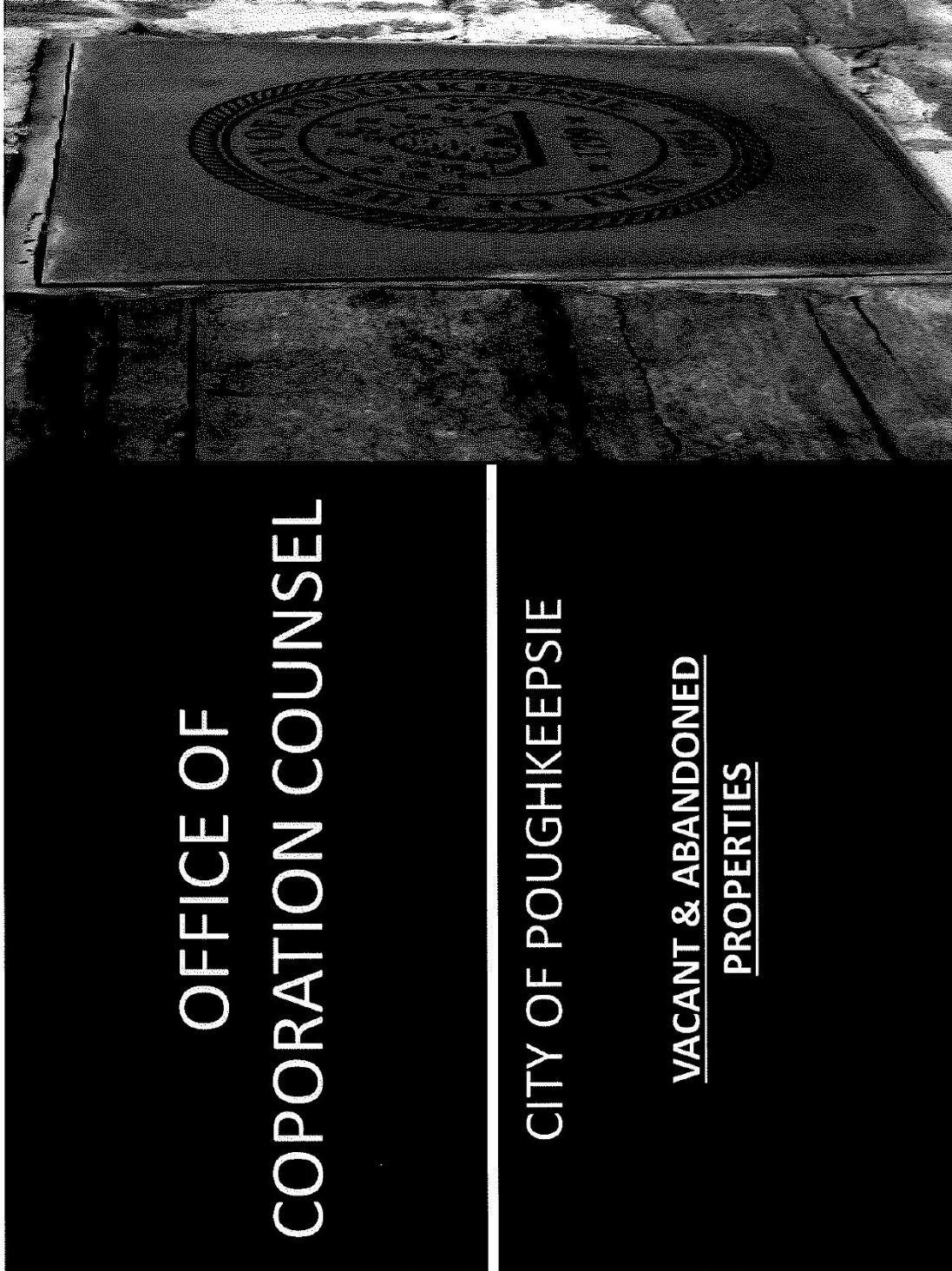
- 315 Church St
- 85 Smith St
- 318 Church St
- 61 Academy St
- 245 Church St
- 211 Church St
- 19 Academy St
- 556 Main St
- 13 Harrison St
- 12 Harrison St

Inspections

- City dedicates three full time staff members to inspections and assessments.
- Starting January 2019 their activities have been added to iWORQ software.
- 771 Building inspections have been tracked (YTD - August).
- Building inspector team writes violations according to city code.

Court Actions

- Staff inspections have resulted in 99 referrals to Corp Counsel alone in 2019 (YTD - August).
- Corp Counsel successfully prosecuted **41** cases in City Court (*thru June 30th*) resulting in actions against **36** vacant properties.
- These actions resulted in in fines collected. **\$213,500**
- Zombie Grants (1.0 & 2.0) added PT legal staff to Corp Counsel beginning May 20, 2019.



OFFICE OF
COPORATION COUNSEL

CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE

VACANT & ABANDONED
PROPERTIES

Why Are We Involved?

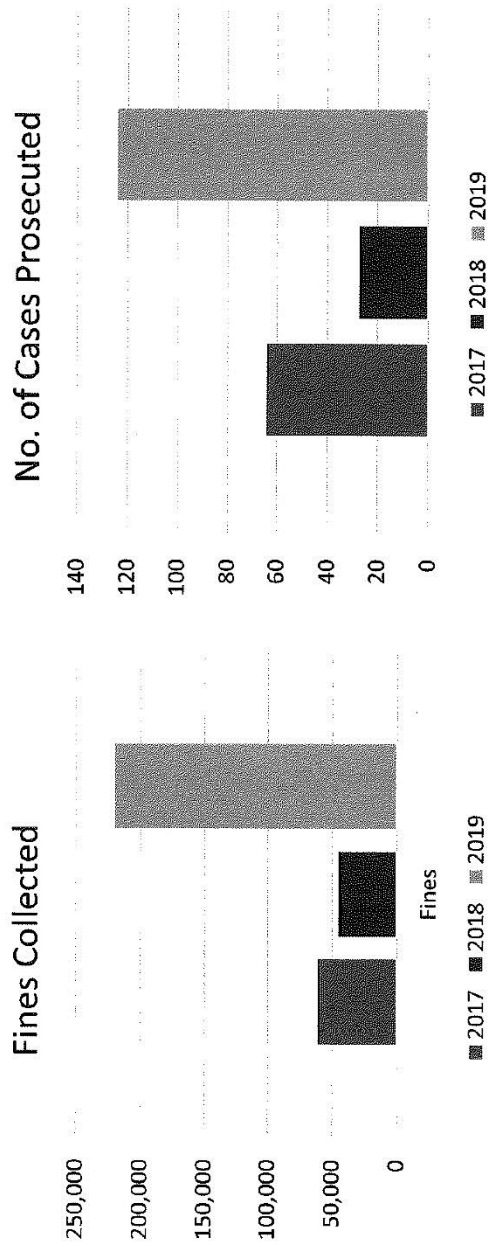
- Corporation Counsel and Assistant Corporation Counsels are appointed by the District Attorney as Special Prosecutors and designated to prosecute all violations of the Building and Zoning Code.

- We Prosecute most cases under the following sections:

- Chapter 6 Of the Building Code
- Chapter 19 of the Zoning Code
- Article 19-A of the Real Property Action and Proceeding Law.



Building Code Violations (2017-Present)



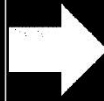
ENFORCEMENT OF BUILDING AND ZONING VIOLATIONS

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

1. Inspects Property for Violations
2. Cites Property
3. Monitors compliance
4. Upon Failure to Abate Sends property to Corporation Counsel

CORPORATION COUNSEL

1. Research Owner & Lienors
2. Draft Criminal Complaint
3. File Complaint with Court
4. Serve Signed Complaint
5. Prosecute In Court



COURT

1. Parties Negotiate A Settlement
2. Parties Execute a Civil Compromise
3. Matter Set for Trial

BENEFITS OF THE ZOMBIE GRANT

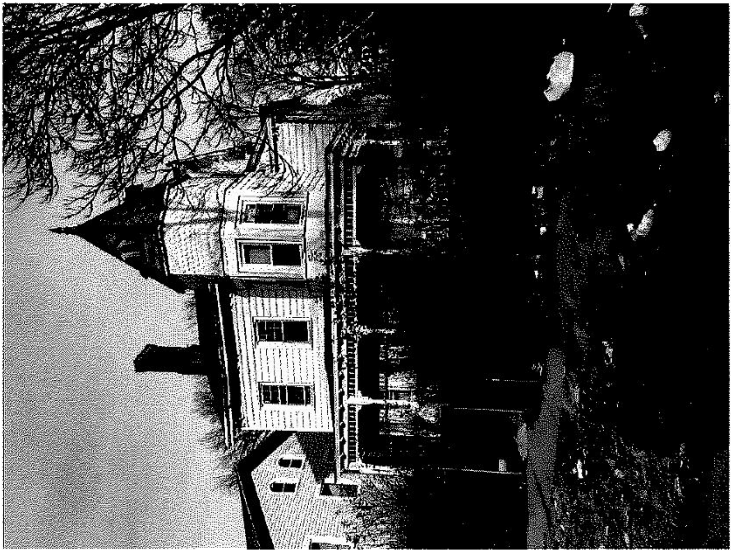
"NEW YORK USING \$9 MILLION FROM RBS SETTLEMENT TO FIGHT ZOMBIE HOMES"



"ZOMBIE 2.0 INITIATIVE WILL GIVE CITIES MORE MONEY TO FIGHT BLIGHT"

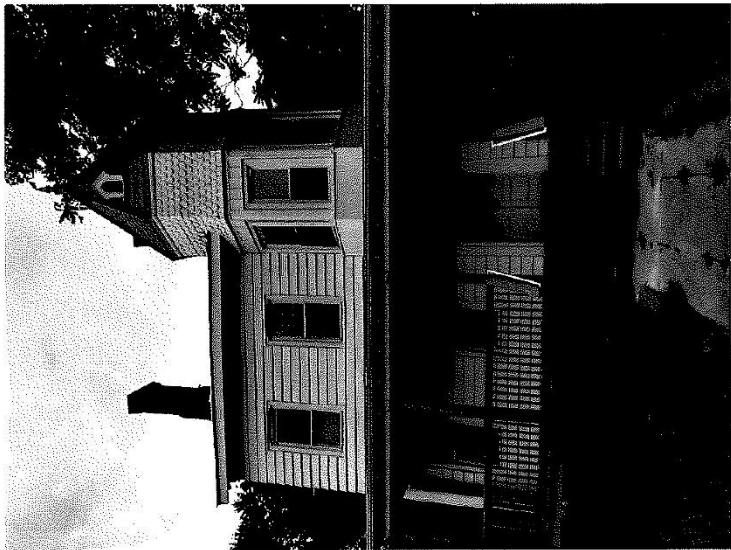
- The 2018 and 2019 Zombie grant has offset most of the cost of hiring 2 part-time legal interns.
- The interns have helped process building and zoning cases for filing in court.
- The have been critical in reducing a backlog of cases.

181 Mansion St
January 2019



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

181 Mansion St
August 2019



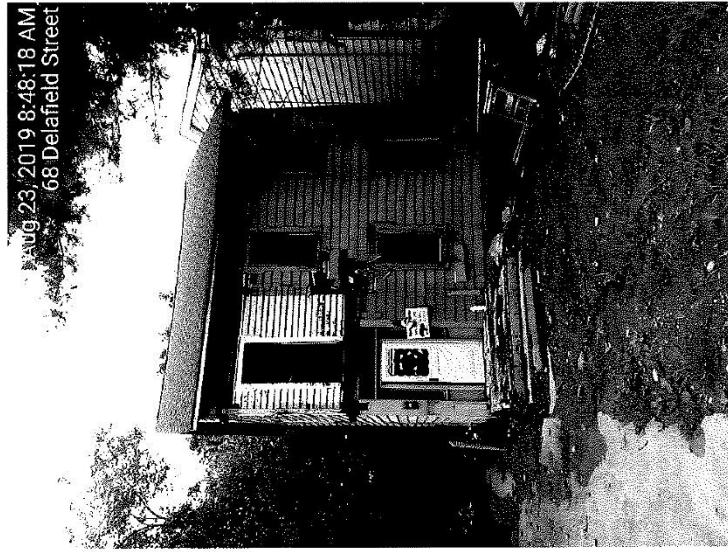
City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

89 S Grand Ave



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

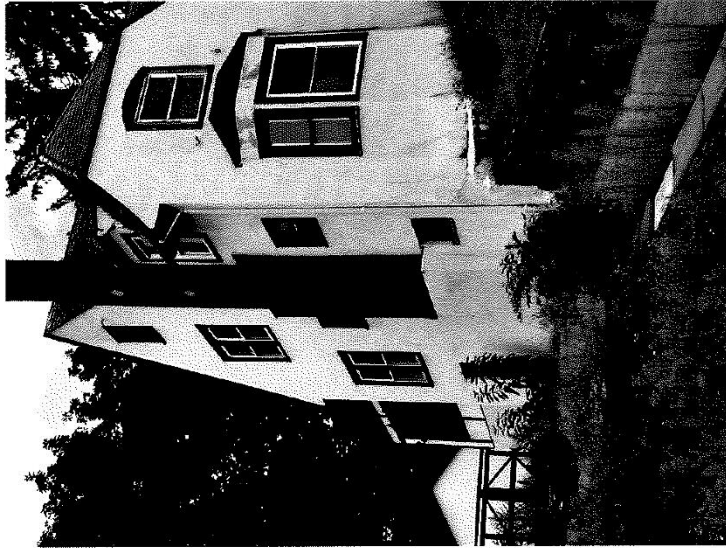
68 Delafield Ave



22

City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

51 Marian Ave



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

25 Balding Ave



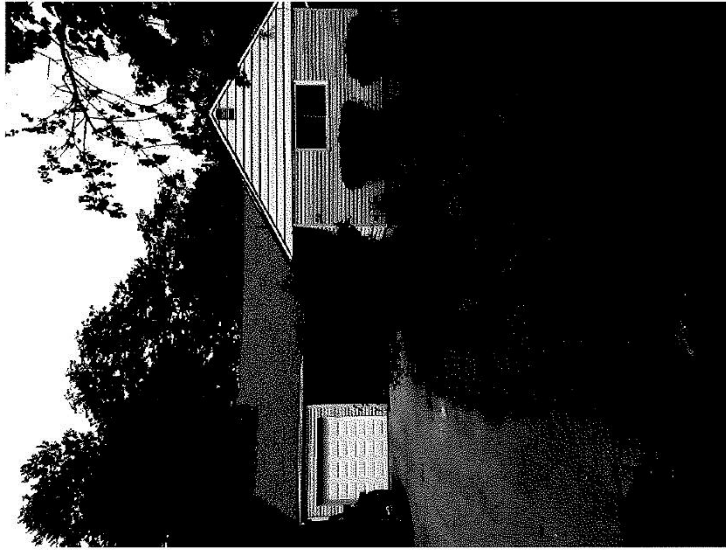
City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

8 Worrall Ave



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

50 Whittier Blvd



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

26

3 Elmwood Ave



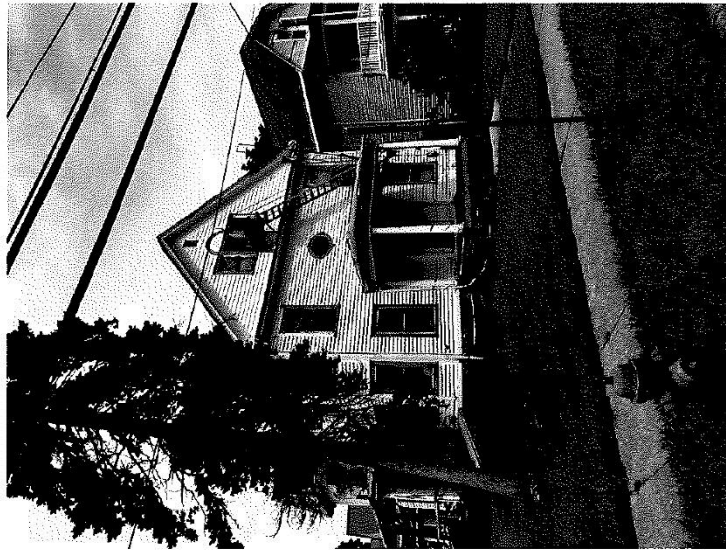
City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

129 Winnikee Ave



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

22 Forbus St



City of Poughkeepsie Anti-Blight Task Force: Council Presentation 2019

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2. **FROM DEBORAH HERRING**, a notice of personal injuries sustained on May 14, 2019. **Referred to Corporation Counsel.**

3. **FROM LORETTA BUTLER**, a notice of property damage sustained on August 3, 2019. **Referred to Corporation Counsel.**
4. **FROM USAA CAUSALITY INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O THOMAS PENNINGTON C/O CLERKIN, SINCLAIR & MAHFOUZ**, a notice of property damage sustained on June 6, 2019. **Referred to Corporation Counsel.**

X. UNFISHED BUSINESS:

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Petsas to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Dated: October 25, 2019

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on August 26, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

**Deanne L. Flynn
City Chamberlain**