



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 19, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Common Council Chambers

Welcome to the regularly scheduled Meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is December 19, 2022, and the time is 7:26 pm.

I. ROLL CALL: 8 present, 0 absent

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Public Hearing – December 5, 2022

Common Council Meeting – December 5, 2022

Motion to accept the minutes: Councilmember Long

2nd: Councilmember Thompson

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

-NONE-

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- **Gus Kazolias – Noxon St.**
- **Laura Forman – 66 Washington St.**
- **Donald Fox – Gifford Ave.**
- **Kevin Carswell – Fishkill**
- **Warren Jones – N. Clover St.**
- **William Smith**
- **Ellen Miller - Weed St., Community Voices Heard**
- **Tanisha Kelly – Mansion St.**

- **Liz O’Raffity – 295 Mill St.**
- **Theresa Munchik - For the Many**
- **Gail Moran – For the Many**
- **Nia P. – College Ave., For the Many**
- **Greg Charter**
- **Rosemary DeCruz - For the Many**
- **Kane Bowers – submitted written comments**
- **Laurie Sandow, S. Grand Ave. - submitted written comments**

Dear Council Members,

Hello, This is Kane, Union Street resident. I am sending a written comment instead of speaking tonight because of so many people wanting to speak and how often I get to speak with all of you. I did want to implore all of yall to address the issue of gentrification in our city via Airbnbs. I am a new resident here (coming on 2 years), but I plan to stay here if I can. I have continually been pushed out of my cities due to gentrification. When I moved here for work I was so happy to be back up north near my family, and I felt I was in the city I would make my home for the foreseeable future. I want that future, confidently putting down one’s roots, for myself and my Poughkeepsie neighbors but I see gentrification creeping in and commodifying our city for profit and for people who make a lot more money than me. Airbnbs are not the only cause of the issue that is affecting us, but it is part of it because it jump-starts gentrification and unaffordability because it is not for people like me. I see Airbnbs for 300 dollars a night, and studios for 1,600. As someone who makes \$29,000 (higher than our minimum wage), I could never dream of paying either of those for a night or a month. Those are not here for me or any resident here who makes low wages. Those prices are a part of a trend of gentrification to bring in wealthy folks who have no attachment or accountability to our communities but have immense power in shaping them. This is part of the plans of those who are profiting from the crisis while we suffer. It is not possible to protect our communities and stabilize rent when the housing market is marketed to gentrifiers. It is about short-term profit, not longevity. I ask all of you to read the legislation if you have not yet, and push for a set date for a public hearing. Along with doing a vacancy study so we know the reality of what we face together.

Thank you for your time,
Kane Bowers

Though I arrived on time to speak at both of tonight's earlier public hearings, as well as entering my name early on the sign-up sheet to speak during public comments at tonight's Common Council meeting, Chair Brown chose to call speakers out of order, for the alleged purpose of providing a (quote/unquote) "equitable" chance to those "who normally don't get a chance to speak". Of course, in service to equitability, the Chair could have extended the public comment period so that all could speak. Instead, "equitability" was created as an excuse that would deny comments from those the Chair and/or other councilmembers might prefer to silence.

Manipulating the speaker lineup is not new to this Council. It was a favorite tactic of Chair Brown's predecessor, Sarah Salem.

<https://totalwebcasting.com/view/?func=VIEW&id=cop&date=2022-12-19&seq=3>

Quoting directly from the transcript: "With that said, I will transition in the citizens comments. Citizens comments are on any agenda or not agenda item and are limited to 3 minutes. We do have up to 45 minutes of citizen comment, so we have a lengthy list of speakers. So what I'm going to. Do. As time goes on, I'll have to start identifying people who normally don't get a chance to speak, to be equitable. So if you speak on a regular basis and you may not have an opportunity tonight, please submit all your comments in writing to the city. Chamberlin And she will relay them to us."

Earlier tonight, at both the public hearing regarding the rise in crime, and the public hearing about the LWRP, I spoke about how this Administration and this Common Council bear responsibility for engaging in obstruction, rogue behavior, and lawbreaking—behavior that threatens and undermines the public's right to know, as well as the City's progress and function overall. I cited public hearings that—for grandstanding purposes and obstruction only—are held over and over without ever producing an outcome. About Councilmembers who protest that they haven't been informed, when what they're really saying is that they haven't made the effort to keep themselves informed, let alone inform their constituents. Nor do these Councilmembers acknowledge how they use their own failure at diligence to jerk around, cancel and/or reschedule appearances by others.

Two weeks ago, this Council held a so-called public hearing on the Budget. Did a single member of this Council, in advance of that hearing, comment on the record with insight or information about their own contemplated and/or planned budget amendments? No.

Which brings us to what we find hidden on tonight's consent agenda? Budget amendments that are only visible and findable for residents who know how to explore the nooks and crannies of the City's pathetic website. And if one uncovers the creation date for that budget document, they'll find it was made on December 9—just two days after the public hearing yet never referenced or otherwise mentioned by Councilmembers at the public hearing.

Among the hidden amendments: \$20,000 for the Salary of a PT Council Research Fellow, and \$5,000 for computer equipment for the same "Fellow". Who, what, how and why is this "Fellow" being hired? Thanks to the Council's use and abuse of the consent agenda, no explanation will be forthcoming. Currently, councilmembers salaries are \$15,000/yr.; the councilmember-at-large earns \$22,500/yr., yet this unidentified "Research Fellow" with unidentified research purpose, is scheduled to earn \$20,000/year, and be supplied with a computer priced at \$5,000?!?!?

Also hidden among the budget amendments (quoting from the document):

—a \$2,000 increase for Student Athletic Basketball program; \$150,000 for an attorney regarding Housing and Illegal Evictions; and \$95,000 over two years for a pilot program regarding Senior Home Repair funding.

Other sneak additions to the Consent Agenda:

—a Resolution Approving a Building Department Fee Schedule that's never been discussed in public;

—a Resolution setting a Public Hearing regarding Senior Tax Exemptions; which this Council may or may not have ever discussed with the City Assessor;

—An appointment of Christopher Grant to the Vacant Position of 6th Ward Councilmember, without identifying the other applicants, or the selection process and reasoning behind the selection.

As always, there's much more to say, and not enough time in three minutes to do that.

V. CHAIRWOMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Before we transition into public participation, I just wanted to clarify a few things because some speakers may be prepared to speak on certain topics and I want to provide information such as our budget may read like there's a proposed reduction in funding, but it's really not. And I wanted to take the opportunity to explain. So last year we did not have a director of youth services, and now we do Ms. Karen Williams, who's doing a phenomenal job. So we just put 915,000 in a youth services line period. But this year we're being a little more strategic since we do have this person. We're putting 760,000 in that line. Also, we're hiring a director of Parks and Recreation. And those of you who grew up in Poughkeepsie, like I did, we used to have that and they had soccer, baseball, football, everything going on through the city.

So it's our hopes those programs will be we'll get reactivated now once. And the key to this and the key to all funding is that our ARPA is going to expire in 2024. We are getting a reduction every year this year for 23, we're going to have approximately almost a \$2 million reduction from last year. So because of that reduction, we have to be more strategic so we can have the staying ability for these youth programs. We don't want to just pump in resources that we have temporarily and then when the resources expire, the programs expire with it.

So we're reimagining things. And by doing that, this council will work with not only the Development Office, not only with the Youth Program Office and the Department of Recreation. We'll work with the Finance Committee and ARPA Committee to identify additional funding opportunities as they arise. But please know that we do have approximately 475,000 and contingency that we will look at again strategically, because the key, the catch term here is to start to sustainability, have it take it too long. Also, we do have about \$100,000 in ARPA unappropriated funds that we can look at the committee as well.

And then in a general fund, approximately \$175,000 may be freed up. So if you add those numbers that it far exceeds the 915,000 that we allocated next year. Also something we're doing differently. Last year we appropriated certain ward funds, 50,000 in ARPA, we're not doing that. And there was a question there was a comment earlier I think from has said now and some of us like myself gave our ward funds back to the youth programs and they were allocated that way. So I didn't expect them amount the six ward. I gave them back to the city as many of our colleagues did.

So instead of doing that this year that money's already going to be in a pot. And plus we'll have our discretionary ward funds that we can also contribute as well. So I just want to clarify that because we didn't have a real opportunity to discuss this budget publicly. And, you know, I believe at the last council meeting. I admitted that, you know, we had a lot going on in the last couple of months. We didn't have our footing. We did not have a permanent chair. And as soon as I assumed that position, I got right to work. So, you know, we're work in progress.

And the only thing I could do is always be honest with you all and as transparent as we can be. But please just be patient and understand that, you know, this is a new basically a new council because it's a new leader and everyone has to get to know each other. And we're learning also for the many.

And you came to the meetings over and over again talking about rent relief, but I don't want you to think that was in vain, because it's not what we found after our discussions with both the administration, the finance department and ARPA is more appropriate. We look at ARPA funding and how we can re-appropriate some of that funding. However, we also identified that it wouldn't be the best mechanism for city government to be directly paying rent relief. So we would be working on a process to identify nonprofits that can apply for the funding and released the rent relief to law.

So I don't want you to think we negated any of that. We didn't. And we want to help. Everyone on this council is in agreement that we should help in some capacity. But what we could do and what we are doing after we adopt this budget, we are hiring an attorney to help with those eviction proceedings to help you out. You know, the people who are having troubles in the courts and, you know, people facing evictions. We are also hiring a paralegal to help us and a common counsel and not to say our corporation counsel is doing a fantastic job. Well, a lot of times we can't make decisions without knowing the legal ramifications. And it is the unfair expectation that call, Becky, at 10:00 at night when we're talking at caucus, you know, about these things. But if we had a part time paralegal that we could work with in those off hours, you know, we can make more informed decisions. So, please, now, we didn't forget about you. We're not going to forget about you. And we all care. And that's jointly between the administration and the council. We are going to do something to help.

VI. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

I want to again, Chair thank you. And this will be my last meeting of the Common Council. It has been an honor to be with all of you and many others that had sat in these chairs prior for the past seven years and I want to just say again, thank you. I thank you for letting me be here with you.

I want to thank the over 350 people that work for this city, Poughkeepsie, every single day, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They're out there when others are not out there doing all the things that we want them to do as citizens of this city. And that's everything from public safety to the Department of Public Works, to people that work within City Hall and other city departments who come to work every day not looking for accolades, just wanting to do a good job, and having the tools and resources to do that. We address that over the past seven years.

As many of you know, the city's situation in 2006 and obviously prior to that and taking office, the city needed to re-energize itself. And city government certainly was at the top of that list. And we did that together. I want to also acknowledge, because this is a political process, too, you know, election was just held. I have the opportunity now to go to become a state senator next year in Albany. And the experiences that I have had here in this city have shaped me in ways that I never thought would have been imaginable, because if I had not been a mayor, I would probably not be a state senator. It's just that simple. I will always take the local government approach in the way that I look at things, because prior to being the mayor, of this great city, I was a county legislator representing the city of Poughkeepsie.

And that's important because too many times those local concerns and we heard a lot of them tonight and obviously these are all valid concerns, sometimes are not necessarily heard at other levels. And I want to also I want to thank the administration of the city that I have had the honor and privilege and very thankful to have working alongside us here on the third floor and all the floors of the city.

But know no one more than Marc Nelson, the city administrator who by charter becomes the

mayor on January 3rd. I step down. You step in and I want I think you all should also know that I have been I've had the benefit of having a city administrator to work alongside when Marc Nelson takes office. He will not have a city administrator. It will be Marc's responsibility to do both those jobs. And that's not always going to be easy. And he's going to need the support of this council, the staff of here of the city of Poughkeepsie government and the community.

And Marc, I wish you obviously nothing but the best. You were going to serve in that position well, you have been a tremendous city administrator. And prior to that, he was finance commissioner. And so and our finance commissioner, Dr. Martinez, is here this evening. And, Brian, thank you for what you've been able to do in trying to get our fiscal situation in order and you have and Marc, you have done that because everything does start, obviously, with the fiscal condition of any community.

I want to also welcome Chris Grant. I see you're on the agenda tonight, Chris. Congratulations. And let's give him a round of applause for the community Chris. Chris has been a great member of this community in the work that he has done alongside many of you that are here tonight. And Chris, you will be a great addition to the Sixth Ward. To the council chair. I don't know, because I missed a lot of the meetings when you were thinking about becoming chair. And I am so glad that you did it. Well, we came into office together in 2016 and there were many occasions we said we would leave together. But I'm leaving early and you get to leave on time. And Lorraine Johnson, you came in in 2006. And we said the same thing. So I could go on and I don't want to. It's been a pretty long meeting so far, and it's awfully damn hot in here too. I'm sorry about that. Sometimes the heat works and sometimes it doesn't. And tonight's working. I want to wish everybody a happy and safe holiday season.

I'll continue to participate, but also continue to do all the things that you do for this great city. Thank you very much.

VII. NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

~~VIII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:~~

CONSENT AGENDA:

IX. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Long and seconded by Councilmember Johnson.

- 1. R-22-91, Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for the proposed Local Law Amending Chapter 14.35 of the Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie Entitled Taxes – Partial Exemption Granted; Conditions – Senior Tax Exemption**

**RESOLUTION
(R-22-91)**

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW AMENDING SECTION 14.35 OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE ENTITLED “TAXES
– PARTIAL EXEMPTION GRANTED; CONDITIONS”**

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER MENIST_____ :

BE IT RESOLVED that an introductory Local Law entitled, “LOCAL LAW
AMENDING SECTION 14.35 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF
POUGHKEEPSIE ENTITLED ‘TAXES – PARTIAL EXEMPTION GRANTED;
CONDITIONS’” be and 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 to receive comment from the public on Monday, January 23, 2023 at 6 pm in
the Common Council Chambers, Third Floor, City Hall, 62 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie,
New York;

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-22-91 – VOICE VOTE							
☒	Accepted			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
☐	Defeated	Councilmember Long	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
☐	Tabled	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

2. R-22-92, Resolution Approving the Building Department Fee Schedule

RESOLUTION (R-22-92)

INTRODUCED BY CHAIRWOMAN CHERRY _____:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie hereby approves and adopts the **Building Department Fee Schedule** attached hereto:

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____.

R-22-92 – VOICE VOTE						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Long	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

3. R-22-93, Approving the 2023 Budget for the City of Poughkeepsie

RESOLUTION (R-22-93)

INTRODUCED BY CHAIRWOMAN BROWN_____ :

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie, estimates of budget requirements for the year 2023 have been certified to the Mayor, City Administrator and the Commissioner of Finance by the various departments, officers, agencies and boards of the City of Poughkeepsie; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor with the help of the City Administrator and the Commissioner of Finance did review the aforementioned estimates with the various departments, officers, agencies and boards; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor did prepare a proposed budget for the year 2023 based on these aforementioned reviews, which proposed budget with the Mayor's budget message was submitted to the Common Council on October 14, 2022; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to a notice of public hearing being published in the official newspaper, in compliance with provisions of the City Administrative Code, a public hearing was duly held on December 5, 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the 2023 preliminary budget, as amended by the attached Schedule A, be and hereby is adopted and declared to be the budget of the City of Poughkeepsie for the year 2023; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the amounts of said budget appropriations, estimated revenues, and contributions from fund balances, be and are hereby appropriated as therein specified in accordance with the provision of the Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie and General and Special laws of the State of New York applicable to said City; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the aforementioned general ad valorem taxes required to be raised for such budget purposes would need a homestead tax rate of \$10.28 per one thousand dollars and a non-homestead tax rate of \$15.15 of assessed valuation upon all taxable property of the City of Poughkeepsie according to the valuation of the assessment roll for the current year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the required water rate for taxable and nontaxable properties is established at \$5.10 per 100 cubic feet; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the required sewer rate for taxable and nontaxable properties is established at \$4.55 per 100 cubic feet; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Local Law 3 of 2012 the required sanitation rate for eligible taxable and nontaxable parcels is established as follows:

Single family residence: \$120.00 a quarter
Two family residence: \$237.50 a quarter
Three family residence: \$375.00 a quarter

4 yard dumpster \$671.88 a quarter
6 yard dumpster \$931.25 a quarter
8 yard dumpster \$1,234.38 a quarter

Mixed-use property: \$234.38 a quarter

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with the Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie and on or before the date therein specified, a warrant shall be issued to the Commissioner of Finance as City Treasurer, to collect such taxes in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie applicable thereto, with penalties and interest therein provided.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER _____ .

R-22-93– VOICE VOTE						
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled		Councilmember Long	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Shook	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Chairwoman Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐

4. R-22-94, Appointing Christopher Grant to the Vacant Position of 6th Ward Councilmember

**RESOLUTION
(R-22-94)**

INTRODUCED BY CHAIRWOMAN BROWN _____:

WHEREAS, the Common Council is comprised of nine (9) members, one elected at-large citywide and one elected from each of the eight wards in the city (Charter Section 2.01); and **WHEREAS**, a vacancy occurred in the position of councilmember for the 6th Ward upon the appointment of Natasha Brown (formerly Natasha Cherry) to the position of councilmember-at-large on November 21, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy in the membership of the common council shall be filled pursuant to Charter Section 2.08(b); and

WHEREAS, the Common Council solicited resumes from interested residents and conducted interviews of potential candidates; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council wishes to make an appointment to the vacancy in the position of councilmember for the 6th Ward.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Common Council hereby appoints the following individual to serve in the position of councilmember for the 6th Ward in accordance with Charter Section 2.08 (b).

Christopher Grant

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER: _____ .

R-22-94– VOICE VOTE						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Long	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

X. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

- O-22-08**, Ordinance Amending §13-175 of the City of Poughkeepsie Code of Ordinances Entitled “Stop Signs; Locations Designated”

**ORDINANCE AMENDING §13-175 OF THE
CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE CODE OF ORDINANCES
ENTITLED “STOP SIGNS; LOCATIONS DESIGNATED”
(O- 22-08)**

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER LONG:_____

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie, as follows:

SECTION 1: Section 13-175 of the City of Poughkeepsie Code of Ordinances entitled “**Stop Signs; Locations Designated**” is amended by the **DELETION** of the following language:

[~~On Mill Street, at its intersection with North Perry Street and Charles Street~~]

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER: _____ .

BOLD and UNDERLINING INDICATE ADDITION
BRACKETS [] AND ~~STRIKETHROUGH~~ INDICATE DELETION

O-22-08– VOICE VOTE						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Long	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

ACTION AGENDA:

XI. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS: [Added by ADDENDUM]

- 1. R-22-95**, Resolution Allocating ARPA Funds for Hudson Valley Reentry Network

RESOLUTION (R-22-95)

RESOLUTION ALLOCATING ARPA FUNDS FOR HUDSON VALLEY REENTRY NETWORK

INTRODUCED BY CHAIRWOMAN BROWN _____ :

WHEREAS, the Hudson Valley ReEntry Network is a non-profit organization providing various forms of assistance to formerly-incarcerated individuals, their families, and the agencies that serve them;

WHEREAS, federal legislation was passed in 2021 in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic called the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) which provided funds to municipalities throughout the United States aimed at speeding recovery by addressing both the health and economic impacts of the Pandemic;

WHEREAS, ARPA funds may be utilized for a wide-variety of categories to aid in such recovery;

WHEREAS, key uses for the ARPA funds received by the City from the United States Treasury are to provide for food, rent, mortgage, and utility assistance as well as for job training and aid for re-employment;

WHEREAS, the allocation of the ARPA funds provided for herein will enable Hudson Valley ReEntry Network to expand its program offerings by providing approximately two (2) months of rental expenses.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council approves the transfer of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) from the City’s ARPA contingency budget to fund the above-described objectives of the Hudson Valley ReEntry Network.

SECONDED BY _____.

R-22-95– VOICE VOTE						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Long	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chairwoman Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

2. R-22-96, Resolution Allocating ARPA Funds for Rebuilding Our Children and Community Inc.

**RESOLUTION
(R-22-96)**

**RESOLUTION ALLOCATING ARPA FUNDS FOR
REBUILDING OUR CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY INC.**

INTRODUCED BY CHAIRWOMAN BROWN _____ :

WHEREAS, Rebuilding Our Children and Community Inc. (“ROCC”) is an organization which provides services to Dutchess County children (ages five through thirteen) which services consist of year-round youth programs. In addition, ROCC hosts various community outreach events throughout the calendar year which connect over one thousand families to necessary resources each year;

WHEREAS, federal legislation was passed in 2021 in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic called the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) which provided funds to municipalities throughout the United States aimed at speeding recovery by addressing both the health and economic impacts of the Pandemic;

WHEREAS, ARPA funds may be utilized for a wide-variety of categories to aid in such recovery;

WHEREAS, key uses for the ARPA funds received by the City from the United States Treasury are to provide for food, rent, mortgage, and utility assistance, childcare, early education, and to address learning losses suffered as a result of the Pandemic;

WHEREAS, the allocation of the ARPA funds provided for herein will enable Rebuilding Our Children and Community Inc. to maintain and expand its program offerings.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council approves the transfer of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) from the City's ARPA contingency budget to fund the above-described objectives of Rebuilding Our Children and Community Inc.

SECONDED BY _____.

No vote was taken on this Resolution. Further discussion warranted, moved to next Council Meeting

XII. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

XIII. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. A COMMUNICATION FROM TERYL MICKENS**, Regarding a Proposed Newly Designated Historic Landmark in the City of Poughkeepsie located at 299 Main St.
- 2. A COMMUNICATION FROM DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR QUINN**, Regarding a Local Law Amending Chapter 18 ½ of the City Code of Ordinances Entitled "Waterfront Consistency Review"

A motion was made to defer the below communication/petition to Corporation Counsel by Chairwoman Brown and was seconded by Councilmember Menist.

- 3. FROM DIANE WARD**, a notice of personal injury sustained on August 31, 2022.

4. **FROM DEMIRA MELVIN**, a notice of property damage sustained on November 29, 2022.
5. **FROM PK PADDYFOTE LLC.** , a notice of intent to obtain a NYS Liquor License.

XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

XV. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Flowers to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM.

Dated: December 29, 2022

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, December 19, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasmin Nicole Davis
City Chamberlain

