



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 31, 2020 6:30 p.m.

City Hall

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

Welcome to the regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is Monday, August 31, 2020, and the time is 6:30 pm.

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

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

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

Let's all recite the pledge of allegiance.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL-All Present

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Official Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of August 31, 2020

Special CCM 6/29/2020						
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled		Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐
		Chair Salem	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.

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Flynn, Deanne

From: Amelia Miller <mirasmom@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 11:11 PM
To: Flynn, Deanne
Cc: Amelia Miller
Subject: Comments for yesterday's Council meeting

Ms. Flynn,,

I would like to apologize for submitting this so late. Thank you, again, for assisting me in being heard. My comments are as follow:

Problems exist in Poughkeepsie, we know that. That we aren't Ferguson, St. Louis, Baltimore or Chicago shouldn't cause us to not take strides toward being better. It should compel us to, knowing how bad things can get. A Civilian Review Board is actually a great way to open the door for conversations & changing perspectives, which fosters greater understanding. Let's keep in mind that police brutality is a horror regardless of race or location.

Many of our newer officers are quite dedicated to a healthy community, like Officer Zirbel, by the way. If she is the start of new policing in Poughkeepsie, we will be moving in a great direction.

Yet, we cannot be hypocrites any longer. We hold private citizens accountable for their actions & we now push for a review board for police to hold them accountable but council persons have had negative interactions involving law enforcement. They have been held LESS accountable than private citizens for similar infractions. Sadly, one of them didn't make a singular misstep. They recklessly drove while intoxicated, not long after the initiative to address accidents to citizens by careless motorists. See something, stop or something like that. Anyway, they caused property damage and injury to a private citizen.

Officials are elected to represent the BEST of us, not the mediocre. If actively breaking laws and ordinances you're charged to create is par for the course, what kind of representation is the City of Poughkeepsie receiving?

Poughkeepsie residents are tired of hypocrisy, abuse & being ignored until useful. We no longer wish to eat cake or watch gladiators in the coliseum when times get trying. We want change and the ability to self actualize. We also want the accountability we are held to, at the very least, to be the same for those we elect.

While a resignation cannot be forced, ethics and morality should lead an honorable person that way.

Respectfully,

Amelia Miller
7 South White Street
Poughkeepsie, NY

V. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Rolison

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Chair Salem:

VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:

VIII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Flowers to table the Resolution and defer to the Finance Committee, Councilmember McNamara seconded the motion.

**RESOLUTION
R20-74**

**2020 BUDGET AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE COVID-19 HAZARD PAY TO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES**

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LORRAINE JOHNSON

WHEREAS, the City of Poughkeepsie community has endured illness and risk of illness due to the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, the essential workers of the Department of Public Works selflessly placed themselves and their families at risk of illness to report to work and ensure sanitation, facilities maintenance and other vital services were done to support the health and safety of the residents of Poughkeepsie; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council is grateful to the employees of the Department of Public Works for their dedication and service; and

WHEREAS, the adopted 2020 budget for the City of Poughkeepsie indicates there are 70 employees within the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council desires to provide a one-time hazard pay bonus of \$500 to each employee of the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie has determined that this resolution constitutes a Type II action as defined by the New York State Environmental Quality review Act and 6 NYCRR Part 617; and

Now, Therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Budget for the City of Poughkeepsie is hereby amended as follows:

Action	Budget Line	Description	Amount
Increase	01-03 2660	Sale of Real Property	\$37,695
Increase	01-08 7103	Salaries - CSEA	\$35,000

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Increase	01-08 7803	FICA	2187.50
Increase	01-08 7803.M	Medicare	507.50

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER

R20-74						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chair Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

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

R20-69						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☐	☒	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☐	☒	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☐	☒	☐	☐
	Chair Salem	Voter	☐	☒	☐	☐

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

R20-73						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter		☒	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☒	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☒	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☒	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chair Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

- 4. A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Cherry to receive and print.**

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R20-70						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chair Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

- 5. A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Cherry to receive and print.**

R20-71						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chair Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

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

R20-72						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember McNamara	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Cherry	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember R. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Petsas	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember L. Johnson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Brannen	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Chair Salem	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

IX. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

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

X. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. FROM

XI. OLD BUSINESS:

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X. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilmember Brannen and seconded by Councilmember Cherry to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Dated:

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, August 31, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanne L. Flynn
City Chamberlain