



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 3, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Common Council Chambers

Welcome to the regularly scheduled Meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is Monday, July 3, 2023, and the time is 6:30 pm.

I. ROLL CALL: 5 Present, 4 Absent (Councilmember Long, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Menist and Councilmember Shook)

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Common Council Meeting – June 20, 2023

Motion to accept the minutes: Councilmember Deichler, Seconded by Councilmember Flowers

CCM Minutes - VOICE VOTE						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Grant	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Long	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Chairwoman Brown	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

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

-NONE-

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Paul Brenner – 184 S. Grand Ave
2. Darren Oakley – 8th Ward
3. Daniel Atonna – 116 College Ave (For the Many)
4. Brian Doyle – Family Services

Per Chairwoman Brown, item #1 under XI. Action Agenda: Motions and Resolutions was removed from the Action Agenda and moved to the Consent Agenda.

V. CHAIRWOMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Chairwoman Brown: I just want to congratulate Councilmember Flowers, Councilmember Deichler, Councilmember Grant and Councilmember Menist on their primary wins. I sincerely hope that we, Councilmember Flowers, does become the first black mayor, but I'm not jumping on your coat tails. I've already been a fan, you know that.

As far as that member of the public, I wish he would have stayed so I could address his frustration. You know, it's easy to sit in the audience and scrutinize what we do or what we don't do and criticize what we do and what we don't do. But, unless you're sitting in our shoes, you don't understand the amount of criticism, complaints that we receive. And I [and] everyone up here on this council works extremely hard to try to do their best job to satisfy everyone, but not everyone's going to be happy. And Councilmember Thompson was speaking directly to someone, and I am sure she was not trying to offend anyone. She was just speaking with a lot of people. And we're saying, so, you know, I was actually going to defend you and invite Mr... me to call Mr. Brenner to understand that he's your constituent so maybe you could reach out to him (referring to Councilmember Deichler). I'm referring to you. So maybe you could reach out to him because I think he got upset. And I don't think...I think he misunderstood what she was saying. But this is no easy feat doing this. And I'm almost eight years in and I'm getting ready to retire from this. But the level of stress, and yes, we do get a small stipend, but some of us have very lucrative jobs that our stipend does not pay our bills. Our stipend pays for the gas money to take us to go to events, or if you know, it pays fees to go to galas and banquets and such. But it's not paying our bills. It's nice that we do get a stipend, but it's not, you know what we do this work for. When I started back in 2016, the stipend was only \$9,000, and then after taxes it was about \$7,000. So you do the math. But anyway...and also to Mayor Nelson, I look forward to continuing to work with you for the next five months. We have done some great things together and I know that will continue.

So, that's all my comments for today. I'll turn it to Mayor's Comments.

VI. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Nelson: Thank you Madam Chair.

And my congratulations also to all the winners, particularly my friend and colleague, Yvonne Flowers. It was a very well-run race between us and my congratulations to you and to all of the victors.

Just a brief comment to one of the commenters on my Facebook account, [it] is for friends and family and I will block anybody who sends me a friend request for nefarious reasons. Sometimes you don't know that it's a nefarious reason until you block them and you get a reaction like that. But that was not a campaign Facebook account, [I'm] about to post the birth of my second granddaughter on there. And if anybody watching this program now or in the future thinks that he's entitled to see pictures of my newborn granddaughter, just give me a call, but make sure it's during business hours. Thank you very much.

Finally, Chair, let me just say, fireworks tomorrow are a "go". And please see me if you need a couple of tickets. I think that it's going to be a wonderful show this year. I would invite you to get up there on the Walkway. We're hoping that there's no drizzle. The second thing we're very happy to report is the pool is open. I'm sorry I couldn't say pools plural this year, but next year the Pulaski pool will be back on line and better than ever. I want to thank our DPW crew, all the city parks look fantastic for the upcoming Fourth of July holiday, and we encourage everybody to get out there. Have a wonderful Fourth with your friends and family. Thank you, Madam Chair.

VII. NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

IX. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Councilmember Deichler and seconded by Councilmember Thompson.

- 1. R-23-54, Resolution in support for the Family Partnership funding application to New York State for Phase 2 of the Facilities Restoration Project**

RESOLUTION
(R-23-54)

INTRODUCED BY CHAIRWOMAN BROWN:

Resolution by the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council approving and endorsing Family Services in its application to NYS Homes and Community Renewal (NYSOHCR) for funding under the New York Main Street Program.

WHEREAS, Family Services desires to apply for up to \$500,000 in financial assistance through the 2023 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) under the NYSOHCR New York Main Street Program for the Family Partnership Center Community Facilities Restoration Project - Phase 2, and

WHEREAS, the application proposes funding to assist property owners to complete building renovations to downtown “main street” buildings on or around Main Street and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding will contribute to ongoing community revitalization efforts and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant obtain the approval and endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Poughkeepsie approves and endorses the 2023 CFA Application to NYSOHCR for assistance prepared and to be submitted by Family Services.

SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER:

R-23-54						
☒ Accepted ☐ Defeated ☐ Tabled			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Councilmember Grant	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Long	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember Flowers	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Deichler	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Thompson	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐
	Councilmember Johnson	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember Menist	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Councilmember Shook	Voter	☐	☐	☐	☒
	Chairwoman Brown	Voter	☒	☐	☐	☐

Per Chairwoman Brown, item #1 under XII. Action Agenda: Ordinances and Local Laws was removed completely as it was put back on the agenda prematurely

ACTION AGENDA:

X. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

XI. ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

- ~~1. **LL-23-06**, Local Law Amending Section 14.35 of the Administrative Code of the City of Poughkeepsie Entitled “Taxes—Partial Exemption Granted; Conditions”~~

XII. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

A motion was made to defer the below communications/petitions to Corporation Counsel by Councilmember Deichler and was seconded by Councilmember Thompson.

- 1. FROM MR. JOSEPH CARPIO**, a notice of personal injury sustained on June 1, 2023
- 2. FROM CHARLES KESSLER**, a notice of property damage that occurred on June 2, 2023

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Deichler to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Dated: July 5, 2023

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Monday, July 3, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. DeLuca
Deputy City Chamberlain