



THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, December 18, 2023 6:00 pm

Common Council Chambers

Welcome to the scheduled meeting of the Public Hearing in the City of Poughkeepsie. The date is December 18, 2023, and the time is 6:12 pm.

THIS HEARING IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING COMMENTS ON THE proposed local law amending Chapter 9 “Garbage, Trash & Weeds,” Article V “Solid Waste Management, “Section 9-68 “Solid Waste Collection Fees,” Subsection (E) “Exemptions”

Chairwoman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

I. WELCOME

II. ROLL CALL: 6 present, 3 absent (Absent: Councilmembers Grant, Johnson and Menist)

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Five (5) minutes per person public comment.

1. Nicholas Kalogris – 14 Maryland Ave / For the Many
2. Laurie Sandow – S.Grand Ave.*

* Submitted Written Comments

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Deichler

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairwoman Brown closed the Public Hearing at 6:17pm

Dated: December 22, 2023

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Public Hearing held on December 18, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna M. DeLuca
Deputy City Chamberlain

Laurie Sandow public hearing comments: Solid Waste Management c/PK Common Council meeting, December 18, 2023

Somehow, my comments were rendered inaudible on the Common Council Chamber's microphones and on the webcast. How and why is that?

<https://totalwebcasting.com/view/?func=VIEW&id=cop&date=2023-12-18&seq=1>

I have nothing to say except that I'm not paid to be a councilmember or to do the Council's work. Time and again this Council holds so-called public hearings where Council members themselves have entered absolutely nothing of their own knowledge or opinion on the public record. Look around and you will see that half the Council doesn't even show up for this or other public hearings, basically flipping the bird to the public.

How is it that members of the public are expected to take the time to comment, or even know that there's a public hearing, when the notice to hold tonight's public hearing was passed by consent agenda at the Council's December 4, 2023 meeting, with all consent agenda items never spoken out loud and into the record? Did a single Councilmember make their own effort to circulate information to their constituents about tonight's public hearing, and the following Council meeting?

Does this Council think that every person in this City knows where and how to access these documents on the City website, and owns the necessary device to do so? There are members of this Council who've shown that they don't even know where and how to access these documents, even though they're given, and gladly collect an allowance for their use digital devices. This is what constantly passes for business as usual in the City of Poughkeepsie, which is both ridiculous and completely unacceptable.



PUBLIC HEARING MEETING AGENDA

Monday, December 18, 2023 6:00pm
Common Council Chambers

City of Poughkeepsie Common Council Public Hearing;

Pursuant to the Charter and Codes of the City of Poughkeepsie, Administrative Code, Section 14.04, a Common Council Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 6:00pm and will be held in the Common Council Chambers, for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed Local Law Amending Chapter 9 “Garbage, Trash and Weeds,” Article V “Solid Waste Management,” Section 9-68 “Solid Waste Collection Fees,” Subsection (E) “Exemptions”.

- I.** Welcome
- II.** Roll Call
- III.** Public Participation:
- IV.** Adjournment:

(LL 23-~~XX~~)

**A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 9 “GARBAGE, TRASH AND WEEDS,”
ARTICLE V “SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT,” SECTION 9-68 “SOLID WASTE
COLLECTION FEES,” SUBSECTION (E) “EXEMPTIONS”**

SPONSOR:

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

~~STRIKETHROUGH~~ INDICATES DELETION
BOLD and UNDERLINE INDICATES ADDED LANGUAGE

SECTION 1: City Code Chapter 9 “Garbage, Trash and Weeds,” Article V “Solid Waste Management,” Section 9-68 “Solid Waste Management Fees,” subsection (e) is amended to read as follows:

(e) *Exemptions:*

(1) Any person who because of age or disability shall qualify for exemption from City real property taxes based on an enhanced star exemption or low income tax exemption, shall be charged a reduced fee for solid waste collection and disposal services in an amount to be determined by the schedule of annual collection fees pursuant to Subsection (a). This reduced fee shall only apply to one dwelling unit in the case of multifamily properties..

(2) Any residential user eligible for STAR tax exemption from City real property taxes, upon demonstrating that only one unit of a two or three unit residential parcel is occupied as their residence, all other units being permanently vacant, after certification to the Commissioner and inspection, pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Commissioner and approved by resolution of the City Common Council, shall pay only the annual base unit fee.

(3) A residential property owner may make an application to the Commissioner of Finance for a one-time waiver of sanitation fees for a period of no more than one (1) year for a residential property that is unoccupied and does not possess a valid certificate of occupancy. If there is an open building permit, the property owner must prove that construction or other debris is being removed from the site by an alternate service such as a dumpster. Any city issued sanitation cans shall be returned to the City during the one-year period. The determination of this waiver shall be within the sole discretion of the Commissioner of Finance.

SECTION 2. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed Local Law be laid upon the desk of each council member; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council shall hold a public hearing on said proposed Local Law and that the City Clerk shall 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 _____ :