



The City of Poughkeepsie New York

Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

6:30 PM

Common Council Chambers

Welcome to the regularly scheduled Meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie
Common Council the date is January 6, 2026, and the time is 6:32pm

I. ROLL CALL

9 Present, 0 Absent ()

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

A motion to Approve was made by 3rd Ward Council Member Brown and seconded by 6th Ward Council Member Grant.

CCM Minutes of December 16, 2025 - VOICE VOTE	
Yes/Aye:	1st Ward Council Member Henry, 2nd Ward Councilmember Menist, 3rd Ward Council Member Brown, 5th Ward Council Member James, 6th Ward Council Member Grant, 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson, 4th Ward Council Member Shook, Council Member At-Large Wilson, 8th Ward Councilmember Atonna
No/Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	
Result:	Passed

1. Common Council Meeting Minutes - December 16, 2025

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

IV. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

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A motion to Defer items 1 through 5 to Corporation Counsel was made by 3rd Ward Council Member Brown and seconded by 6th Ward Council Member Grant.

Motion to Defer Items 1 through 5 to Corporation Counsel - VOICE VOTE	
Yes/Aye:	1st Ward Council Member Henry, 2nd Ward Councilmember Menist, 3rd Ward Council Member Brown, 5th Ward Council Member James, 6th Ward Council Member Grant, 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson, 4th Ward Council Member Shook, Council Member At-Large Wilson, 8th Ward Councilmember Atonna
No/Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	
Result:	Passed

1. **FROM THE ESTATE OF JAMES J. MONTANINO**, a notice of claim for injuries and wrongful death sustained on September 29, 2025
2. **FROM WINFRED NYAKOOJO**, a notice of claim for injuries sustained on September 29, 2025
3. **FROM BARBARA M. RIGNANESE**, a notice of claim for injuries sustained on September 30, 2025
4. **FROM HENRY GONZALEZ**, a notice of claim for damage to personal property sustained on December 14, 2025
5. **FROM TAYAVEGIAS CORP.**, a 30-Day Advance Notice of Application for Liquor License

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Three (3) minutes per person up to 45 minutes of public comment on any agenda and non-agenda item.

Wesley Aptekar-Cassels- 27 Conklin Street
Laurie Sandow- S Grand Ave

VI. NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA: MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

A motion to Approve was made by 3rd Ward Council Member Brown and seconded by 2nd Ward Councilmember Menist.

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda: Resolution R-16-10 - VOICE VOTE	
Yes/Aye:	1st Ward Council Member Henry, 2nd Ward Councilmember Menist, 3rd Ward Council Member Brown, 5th Ward Council Member James, 6th Ward Council Member Grant, 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson, 4th Ward Council Member Shook, Council Member At-Large Wilson, 8th Ward Councilmember Atonna
No/Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	
Result:	Passed

1. **R-26-10**, Authorizing the Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal-Aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, and Appropriating Funds for Washington Street over Fall Kill Creek Bridge Rehabilitation

**RESOLUTION
(R-26-10)**

Authorizing the implementation, and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal-aid and State "Marchiselli" Program-aid eligible costs, of a transportation federal-aid project, and appropriating funds therefore.

Washington Street over Fall Kill Creek Bridge Rehabilitation

**INTRODUCED BY CHAIRMAN WILSON, COUNCILMEMBER SHOOK,
PATTERSON THOMPSON, BROWN AND GRANT**

WHEREAS, a Project for City of Poughkeepsie, Washington Street over Fall Kill Creek Bridge Rehabilitation (BIN 2262670), PIN 8759.83 (the "Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the

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apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R18-46 adopted by the City of Poughkeepsie on June 4, 2018 approved and agreed to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of preliminary engineering and right-of-way incidental work.

WHEREAS, it was subsequently found necessary to undertake additional right-of-way incidental and preliminary engineering work not contemplated in the original agreement authorized by the previous Resolution and that was authorized by Resolution No. R-23-30; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-25-37 adopted by the City of Poughkeepsie on April 16, 2025 approved and agreed to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the construction and construction inspection work.

WHEREAS, it was subsequently found necessary to undertake additional construction and construction inspection work not contemplated in the original agreement authorized by the previous Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it has been found necessary to increase the federal and non-federal share of costs for the additional construction and construction inspection work for the project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Poughkeepsie desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the Construction and Construction Inspection work.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Poughkeepsie Common Council, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVE, that the Poughkeepsie Common Council hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Poughkeepsie Common Council hereby authorizes the City of Poughkeepsie to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of the construction and construction inspection work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of **\$652,000 (\$14,876,310 minus the previous \$14,224,310)** is hereby appropriated from Account 30-08-5110 7461 (Contract Ser-Engineering 19BRG.01) and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

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RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Poughkeepsie Common Council shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the Mayor thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Poughkeepsie be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or applicable Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Poughkeepsie with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that in addition to the Mayor, the following municipal titles: Commissioner of Public Works, City Engineer, and Commissioner of Finance are also hereby authorized to execute any necessary Agreements or certifications on behalf of the Municipality/Sponsor, with NYSDOT in connection with the advancement or approval of the project identified in the State/Local Agreement;

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) SS:
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS)

I, Jamar Cummings, Clerk of the City of Poughkeepsie, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of this Resolution with the original on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original Resolution and of the whole thereof, as duly adopted by said Common Council at a meeting duly called and held at City Hall on April 15, 2025 by the required and necessary vote of the members to approve the Resolution.

WITNESS My Hand and the Official Seal of the City of Poughkeepsie, New York, this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Clerk, City of Poughkeepsie

IX. CONSENT AGENDA: ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

X. ACTION AGENDA: MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

XI. ACTION AGENDA: ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

A motion to Approve was made by 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson and seconded by 6th Ward Council Member Grant.

Motion to Approve the Action Agenda: Ordinance O-26-01 - VOICE VOTE	
Yes/Aye:	1st Ward Council Member Henry, 2nd Ward Councilmember Menist, 3rd Ward Council Member Brown, 5th Ward Council Member James, 6th Ward Council Member Grant, 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson, 4th Ward Council Member Shook, Council Member At-Large Wilson, 8th Ward Councilmember Atonna
No/Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	
Result:	Passed

1. **Second Read:** O-26-01, Ordinance Amending §13-180 Of Chapter 13 Of the City Of Poughkeepsie Code of Ordinances Entitled “Motor Vehicles and Traffic”- Parking Prohibited at All Times on May Street, East Side, From the Northeast Corner of Forbus Street and May Street to a Point 185 Feet Northerly Therefrom.

**ORDINANCE AMENDING §13-180
OF CHAPTER 13 OF THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE
CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED “MOTOR VEHICLES
AND TRAFFIC”**

(O-26-01)

**INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER PATTERSON THOMPSON, SHOOK,
HENRY, MENIST, BROWN, JAMES AND GRANT:**

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

SECTION 1: §13-180 is hereby amended by the following modification:

Section 13-180 – Parking prohibited at all times.

Upon the erection of signs giving due notice thereof, the following areas shall be designated as part of the parking prohibited at all times area.

May Street, east side, from the northeast corner of Forbus Street and May Street to a point 185 feet northerly therefrom.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ADDITIONS denoted by **Underlining and Bold**

XII. MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Flowers began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and welcoming the newest council member, Daniel Attona, expressing eagerness to collaborate on ongoing projects in the city. She then discussed the effectiveness of the Flock system, which has been instrumental in solving crimes, including a murder, and emphasized that it is not misused for immigration purposes. Acknowledging recent complaints about sanitation services during the holidays, Mayor Flowers provided context for the delays and expressed gratitude for the hard work of the DPW.

Additionally, Mayor Flowers addressed the narrative surrounding family matters involving her brother, stating a commitment to not condoning violence and clarifying misconceptions circulating on social media. She reiterated that family issues should remain private and criticized the expectation to publicly address personal matters. She also defended her father's longstanding community work and clarified inaccuracies regarding responsibilities at the Festival Of Lights. Overall, Mayor Flowers asserted the importance of focusing on city governance and the actual issues at hand rather than personal attacks and gossip.

XIII. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Chair Wilson opened by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and thanking attendees for joining the meeting, both in person and via webcast. He acknowledged the

challenges faced by DPW in clearing snow and emphasized the importance of communication between council members and constituents. He addressed misconceptions about council rules, highlighting that those who claim rules have been violated, often fail to follow them themselves. Chair Wilson called for a focus on substantive issues affecting the community rather than personal grievances, urging citizens not to be swayed by misleading narratives that undermine council efforts. He expressed pride in the accomplishments of the council and encouraged a pivot towards actionable items that truly benefit the city, dismissing distractions such as social media critiques of the mayor.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:20 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson and seconded by 3rd Ward Council Member Brown.

Dated: January 9, 2026

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 6, 2026.

**Respectfully submitted,
Donna M. DeLuca
Deputy City Chamberlain**

I would like to know:

- What agency approved the installation of these cameras?
- What is the cost to the taxpayer of the contract for these cameras?
- How many of these cameras are in Poughkeepsie, and where are they located?
- What organizations have access to these cameras? What oversight exists on their use?
- Has the footage from any of the cameras in Poughkeepsie been publicly viewable over the internet, as recent reporting has shown to be the case for many Flock cameras?
- Has Poughkeepsie considered removing these cameras, given the recent revelations of their misuse, and poor security practices?

Flock Surveillance cameras in Poughkeepsie

I recently began noticing surveillance cameras from the controversial “Flock Safety” company appearing in Poughkeepsie. These AI-enabled cameras have been in many controversies including:

- Being used to surveil peaceful protesters at the No Kings marches.
- Being used for ICE enforcement activity, often in violation of state and local law.
- Having numerous security vulnerabilities, allowing anyone with an internet connection to view live footage of ordinary people going about their business.



“This Flock Camera Leak is like Netflix For Stalkers”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vU1-uiUIHTo>

<https://www.404media.co/tag/flock/>

<https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2025/12/effs-investigations-expose-flock-safety-s-surveillance-abuses-2025-review>

<https://krishnamoorthi.house.gov/media/press-releases/congressman-krishnamoorthi-senator-wyden-urge-ftc-investigate-surveillance>



404 Media's coverage of Flock cameras



EFF's investigation into Flock cameras



Congressman Krishnamoorthi, Senator Wyden Urge FTC to Investigate Flock