



The City of Poughkeepsie New York

Common Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

6:30 PM

Common Council Chambers

Welcome to the regularly scheduled Meeting of the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council the date is March 3, 2026, and the time is 6:30pm

I. ROLL CALL

9 Present, 0 Absent ()

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

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

CC Public Hearing & CC Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026 - 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 of February 17, 2026
2. Common Council Public Hearing of Feb. 17, 2026- Public Collections and Disposal of Solid Waste

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

IV. PRESENTATIONS OF PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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

Suprina Troche- 3 Delafield St *
 Laurie Sandow- S Grand Ave
 Rosemary Fritz Grabowska- 28 Innis Ave

***Submitted Exhibit for the Official Record**

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 1st Ward Council Member Henry.

Consent Agenda Resolution R-26-17- 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

- R-26-17**, Resolution Authorizing the City of Poughkeepsie to Apply for New York State Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant to Convert Market Street to a 2-Way Street

RESOLUTION

(R-26-17)

SPONSORED BY: CHAIRMAN WILSON; COUNCILMEMBER SHOOK, PATTERSON THOMPSON, HENRY, MENIST, BROWN, JAMES, GRANT AND ATONNA

WHEREAS, the State of New York has announced \$97.4 million in funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP); and,

WHEREAS, the goal of this program is to support innovative, transformative transportation improvements for communities, including bicycle, pedestrian, multi-use paths, and other non-motorized transportation improvements and/or projects which would improve mobility, accessibility, and the community's transportation character; and

WHEREAS, the City of Poughkeepsie desires to improve the safety and accessibility of Market Street and Civic Center Plaza for pedestrians, motorists and cyclists, while reducing the excessive disorientation and vehicle miles traveled burden on motorists caused by the current configuration of those streets; and

WHEREAS, the desired improvements would transform Market Street and Civic Center Plaza between Church Street and Mill Street into a two-way street and create a two way bicycle lane on the same street between Mansion Street and Church Street; and

WHEREAS, the Project is identified as an approved project in the City of Poughkeepsie 2026-2030 Revised Capital Improvements Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Market Street Two Way in the City of Poughkeepsie may become eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the Market Street Two Way project may become eligible for funding through the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative; and,

WHEREAS, the Market Street Two Way project is eligible for funding through the annual Community Development Block Grant program through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; 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 design and construction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council adopts this Resolution to authorize the City of Poughkeepsie to take the lead on this TAP grant application and to authorize the Mayor and/or Commissioner of Development as signatory on any associated documents; and it is further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby authorizes the City of Poughkeepsie to issue municipal bonds to cover the cost of participation of 100% of the federal and non-federal share for the cost of design and construction work for the

Project or portions thereof; and it is further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the maximum allocation of \$7,642,202 be made available with a maximum allocation of \$1,528,440 be hereby appropriated from the issuance of municipal bonds to cover the cost of the local share in the above phase of the Project.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA: ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

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

Consent Agenda - Local Law LL-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. **LL-26-01**, Local Law to Amend Section 9-64 “Public Collection and Disposal of Solid Waste,” Subsection (F) to Correct the Cross Reference to the Penalty Subsection

(LL 26-01)

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND SECTION 9-64 “PUBLIC COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE,” SUBSECTION (f) TO CORRECT THE CROSS REFERENCE TO THE PENALTY SUBSECTION

SPONSOR: CHAIRMAN WILSON; COUNCILMEMBERS SHOOK, PATTERSON THOMPSON, HENRY, MENIST, BROWN, JAMES, GRANT AND ATONNA:

WHEREAS, the following Local Law is a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) at 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(26) requiring no environmental review under SEQRA.

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: Section 9-64 “Public collection and disposal of solid waste” subsection (f) is amended as follows:

(f) Commercial, institutional, multiple residential and mixed residential users, excepting those which elect to receive and are approved to receive City solid waste collection services, must provide for the lawful collection and disposal of solid waste and recyclables and must establish to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that a licensed commercial solid waste and/or recyclable collector is providing collection and disposal services for the user and that solid waste collection is being made at a frequency determined by the Commissioner to be consistent with public health requirements. Failure to provide for adequate collection and disposal services or to provide satisfactory proof to the Commissioner shall constitute a violation and shall be subject to penalties provided by Section ~~9-70~~ **9-71** herein.

Section 2: This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the New York 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.

X. ACTION AGENDA: MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

XI. ACTION AGENDA: ORDINANCES AND LOCAL LAWS:

XII. MAYOR’S COMMENTS:

Thank you, Chair

Regarding 26 Oakley Street, I've been hearing a lot of questions about what's happening, and I want to clarify that our city is committed to fighting against the county's plans. I've been in constant contact with our lawyers and recently spoke with the county executive, clearly expressing my strong opposition to moving forward. It's frustrating to

Official Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of March 3, 2026

see them steamroll ahead, ignoring our concerns while continuing to place burdensome services in Poughkeepsie, especially when there are better locations.

I urge everyone to attend the meeting on March 9th. It's crucial that we show our presence and voice our concerns to ensure the Dutchess County Democrats understand our perspective. We need more people to rally together because, despite promises of support, the county seems to prioritize other areas over ours. This is our chance to fight for our community, and with your help, I believe we can make a significant impact.

I encourage everyone to sign up for the Buzz newsletter to stay informed about what's happening in Poughkeepsie. It delivers weekly updates directly to your email, includes meeting agendas, and provides important information for residents. On a related note, I've faced ongoing criticism since I've taken office, particularly from one individual who consistently targets me in public comments. While I can handle constructive feedback and am open to addressing our city's deficiencies, I find it frustrating when criticism turns personal and disrespectful.

I want to make it clear that I have no issue attending ward meetings and addressing concerns from residents. Each ward has unique needs, and I'm willing to engage with community members to improve our city. However, the manner in which some criticism is delivered can be disheartening. Serving in a political position should not subject us to constant disrespect. I've always been open to meetings and discussions, and I'm committed to listening to and supporting our residents constructively.

I truly appreciate the recent Black History events that have been happening, and I'm proud of our children for their involvement. I attended a few of them and was genuinely impressed with the quality of the programs; I even learned something new myself. I'm grateful to the teachers, parents, and principals who collaborated to create such wonderful experiences for our kids. I look forward to seeing more events like these in the future!

I want to thank everyone for acknowledging our Department of Public Works, traffic officers, and police department for their teamwork during the recent storms. It was a challenging time, and they worked hard to help residents understand where to park and ensure the city remained safe. I personally toured the city during the storms to assess the situation, coordinating with the city administrator and council members to address any issues. I appreciate the input from residents as well; your observations are invaluable, and I encourage everyone to share any concerns or deficiencies so we can address them together as a community.

I'm excited to share that we just had a Dutchess County law enforcement graduation, where three officers graduated from the academy. They are now entering field training and will soon be out on the streets. I warmly welcome them and truly appreciate their choice to serve in the city of Poughkeepsie.

I want to address the serious issue of human trafficking, which is occurring not just

across the country but right here in the Hudson Valley. It's crucial that we stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity, particularly if someone or a car approaches you or your children. While some people share concerns on Facebook, I urge everyone to report incidents directly to the police so we can document the make and model of vehicles involved.

This information is vital because if someone is unsuccessful with one person, they may target another. Our police department needs accurate records to investigate such situations effectively. I've been made aware of some recent incidents, and while we are looking into them, it's important to emphasize that every report matters. I encourage all community members to stay informed and proactive about this issue.

Thank you Chair. That is all I have.

XIII. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

I want to thank everyone for joining us today, both in person and online. A special shout-out to the Beulah Baptist Social Action Committee and congratulations to all the recipients of the Black Achievers Award and the 40 Under 40 honors, especially Wayne Neal. Additionally, I want to recognize a PK Pioneer bowler who is heading to the state competition for the second time, making history for the Poughkeepsie school district.

I also want to acknowledge our city administration and DPW for their efforts during the recent snowstorm. While there were concerns from constituents, I worked closely with the city administrator and the commissioners to address issues promptly. It's important to remember that our equipment may struggle with such heavy use after a long period without significant snowfall. Lastly, I want to assure everyone that our council members actively participate in ward and town hall meetings, which are essential for gathering information and ensuring we effectively use taxpayer funds.

I want to express my deep condolences to my fellow servicemen and women who lost their lives in war. Regarding criticism, I've faced it throughout my life, often being teased as a kid, but I believe it's not about personal attacks; it's about governance. Too often, narratives are created that unfairly characterize individuals, especially myself, in hostile and exaggerated ways. My background as an educator and administrator has taught me the importance of listening and engaging with the community, and I'm committed to doing what's best for everyone.

We face a unique challenge as council members. While we are held to a certain standard, we also encounter skepticism about our motives. I want to make it clear that there are no violations of open meetings law by anyone on this council, and any discontent with the rules is a matter of opinion. Just like I may not like certain laws, we must all adhere to them. As we move forward, I will continue to correct any misconceptions and ensure that the rules are enforced fairly, regardless of how others feel about them. An apology is not warranted because I've upheld these standards since

taking office.

Everyone, please get home safely. Take some time out to yourselves. Self-care is just what is needed these days.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:17pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by 7th Ward Council Member Patterson Thompson and seconded by 3rd Ward Council Member Brown.

Dated: March 5, 2026

I hereby certify that this true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026.

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

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to: 79 Forest Dr., Hyde Park, NY 12538. Purpose: Any
Lawful Purpose. 12057368

Public Notices

Public Notices

Andron Construction requests proposals from certified
M/WBE and/or SDVOB firms for the Oakley Street Hous-
ing Support Center in Poughkeepsie, NY. Required trades
include: Sitework, landscaping, concrete, masonry,
structural and miscellaneous steel, millwork, counter-
tops, waterproofing, Trespa siding, fireproofing, roofing,
spray foam insulation, EIFS, doors/frames/hardware,
aluminum windows, aluminum storefront, overhead
doors, louvers, glazing, resilient flooring, self-leveling
underlayment, resinous flooring, painting, signage,
toilet and bath accessories, lockers, fire extinguishers,
storage shelving, dock bumpers, appliances, food
service equipment, office furniture, institutional furni-
ture, window treatments, entrance mats, elevator, and
full MEP systems and equipment. If interested contact
Chris Dellacamera at: Andron Construction, 21 Anderson
Lane, Goldens Bridge, NY 10526 PH: 914-232-7531.
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LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of
Poughkeepsie does hereby set the 18th day of February

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