

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 p.m. APRIL 8, 2014
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Adams and carried for Councilmember Wessler to act as Council President in the absence of Council President Rummler and Pro Tempore Giberson to proceed with the City Council meeting.

Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. On the motion of Councilman Kevin Wessler, seconded by Councilmember Donna Riegel, and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, John Bonthron, Donna Riegel, Kevin Wessler

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Doris Bugdon, Roger Giberson, Craig Rummler

MAYOR: Gary B. Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC

ATTORNEY: Kimberly Procopio, Esq.

AUDITOR: Kenneth Moore, CPA, RMA & Nancy Sboralla, CPA, RMA

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: Gina Simon, CMFO

Councilman Kevin Wessler called the meeting to order and lead the flag salute. This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the minutes, in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act". The Municipal Clerk of the City of Port Republic posted at City Hall, 143 Main Street, Port Republic and mailed and/or faxed to the Atlantic City Press and the Mainland Journal, a meeting notice setting for the time, date and locations of this meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE MARCH 2014 BILL LIST

On the motion of Councilmember Bonthron, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN: Riegel PO #14-00021

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS

On the motion of Councilmember Adams, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN: Riegel PO #14-00021

ORDINANCE 02-2014 CAP RATE

Public Hearing/Adoption

Open Public Hearing:

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel seconded by Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

Hearing nothing from the public.

Close Public Hearing

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

RESOLUTION 38-2014- Governing Body Certification of the Annual Audit

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

RESOLUTION 39-2014 Self-Examination of Budget Resolution

Councilmember Riegel questioned the self-examination resolution, Auditor Ken Moore explained that every 2 out 3 years a municipality is allowed to self-exam budgets meaning you do not have to wait for the state approval stating that you passed a resolution to agree to the terms.

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

RESOLUTION 40-2014 Authorizing the Budget be read by title only

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

INTRODUCTION BUDGET 2014

Public Hearing/Adoption

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried to open public portion.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Bugdon, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

Open to public portion.

Kathy Cox 123 Moss Mill Road- Asked if the gravel money is under surplus anticipated? Ken Moore stated no it is under anticipated revenue that amount is used to offset the new city hall. Question how much money the city received from the gravel mine in 2014?

Auditor Ken Moore stated \$63,000.00 in 2013 Kathy Cox questioned how much does the city anticipate for the upcoming year from the sale of the gravel, Gina Simon CFO stated \$125,000.00. Kathy Cox mentioned in the budget there is nothing in there in regard to clean communities and municipal alliance auditor Ken Moore stated the city has not received those monies yet, the money can be inserted during the year when the money comes in.

Hearing nothing more from the public.

Close Public Hearing

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

Motion to adopt 2014 Municipal Budget- On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Bugdon, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

Police/Emergency Management:

Mayor Giberson reported trying to contact the Lt. of the N.J.S.P for a monthly report.

Emergency Management - Mayor Giberson stated everything is getting done for the hazard mitigation grant. Along with three other Atlantic County Communities. Mayor Giberson will get together with county to purchase a generator through emergency management for city hall, he received prices back as high as \$40,000.00 he is looking into catalogs for a single phase the price is between \$16,000 to \$18,000. The City can have the concrete poured for the pad. Mayor Giberson explained a lot of equipment is coming through Sea Girt.

Councilmember John Adams questioned if the City were to purchase two generators would the city not get a better price, Mayor Giberson stated absolutely.

Administrative/Personnel:

No report

Public Works:

No report

Recreation:

No report

Fire and Ambulance:

President of the fire department Nick Lampe was present during the City Council meeting Nick mentioned he gave Clerk Campellone the letter from the Fire Department for the location of fireworks. Councilmember Wessler mentioned that the fire department is still looking into the building next door. Will have a report next month. Generator for Fire Company Mayor Giberson is working on it.

Board of School Estimates:

Mayor Giberson reported that the school board passed their budget they are facing dilemmas year after year does not look good down the road. Mayor Giberson stated he is working with Senator Van Drew, for the school choice to allow more students to attend the Port School, the senator is the only one who responded to the Mayors letter. Councilmember Adams questioned why it would be such a problem when it is the parents' choice, it does not make any sense. Mayor Giberson wanted to thank Council President Rummler and Councilmember Bonthron on a job well done on the Board of School Estimates. They are representing the whole town. People move into this town for the school.

Planning Board:

No Report.

Code Enforcement:

City Solicitor Kim Procopia stated that the developer for Whispering Woods never paved the road it should be done and the dangerous missing storm drain should be replaced the developer has a line of credit from 2006 that states it expired. Keith Davis Esq., stated that statement is always false, the line of credit renews every year. The developer of Whispering Woods still has money in escrow the city is still the beneficiary. Kim Procopia has a contact with First Bank there is \$247,000.00 line of credit for proper completion of the job, automatic renewal June 24, 2014 is the next renewal. Kim Procopia stated to put the developer on notice.

City Solicitor Kim Procopia will research back to 2005 to 2006 for the subdivision approval, looking for the requirements that were put in place for this specific job.

Code Enforcement Officer Kim Campellone is diligently looking for the property maintenance company that is to take care of the two homes on Pomona Avenue to comply with the property maintenance ordinance the city has in place. Councilmember Bonthron requested what are the two homes, code enforcement officer explained it is the Andreaci home and the Wilson property that are vacant.

Construction

For the month of March: total of 11 inspections were done; the following permits were issued: three alterations, and one CO inspection for a total of four.

Senior Services:

Senior tea May3, 2014

Finance:

No update.

Building:

Mayor Gary Giberson reported the building of City Hall is progressing smoothly, roof trusses are in, attaching roof sheathing roof should be done by next week windows are in. The building committee is having their biweekly meetings Mayor Giberson is taking pictures daily.

This is a very secure building. The ceiling in the main room is 12' high. The wall mural will take up a whole wall. Councilmember Riegel questioned who is restoring the mural, Mayor Giberson stated Stockton students along with the Noyes Museum. The mural came from Ethel Noyes she received it from John Wannamaker The Mayor ordered a weathervane from Home Depot saved the City \$1600.00. The bricks are going up, they are beautiful.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Bonthron,seconded by Councilmember Riegel and carried.

Bob Haviland 316 English Creek Road Port Republic mentioned he is following the progress of the building, he has a couple of questions in regards to the building one he cannot see the hurricane clips, Mayor Giberson stated that he saw them put the hurricane clips in. The framing under the valley a few areas there is no back up wood in there. Mayor Giberson will look into this. Bob Haviland is very impressed with the new Municipal Building.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

Hearing nothing further from the public, Councilmember Riegel moved, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried to close the public portion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mayor and Council acknowledged letter from Dennis Levinson update for the central dispatch, Mayor Giberson responded that the Mayor Association is heavily involved in this project.

Quote for generator
Too high

Letter for the safe route to school application
No interest

Letter for transportation alternative program application
No interest

Letter for the Pine Barrens Byway requesting donation of \$250.00
Mayor and Council approved donation.
Mayor Giberson is requesting council to approve the \$250.00 donation Mayor Giberson would like to see a kiosk at the Chestnut Neck Monument to let visitors to the area know of Port Republic's point of interest. Examples are the campgrounds, boatyards and cemeteries.

RESOLUTIONS:

41-2014 Appointing Qualified Purchasing Agent Namely Lucy Samuelson
(Expires June 30 2014) Title Only

On the motion of Councilmember Adams, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummeler

ABSTAIN:

42-2014 Authorizing Increase of \$1,500.00 for JW Pedersen

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

43-2014 Authorizing City of Port Republic to approve requested donation of \$250.00 to the Pinelands project Pine Barrens Byway

On the motion of Councilmember Adams, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES:

03-2014 Salary Ordinance

2nd Reading/Public Hearing/Final Adoption

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel seconded by Councilmember Bonthron and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

Hearing nothing further from the public, Councilmember Adams moved, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried to close the public portion.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

Motion to adopt **Salary Ordinance 03-2014** on the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded by Councilmember Adams and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

04-2014 Authorizing Special Emergency for the Preparation of an Approved Tax Map

First Reading/Introduction

On the motion of Councilmember Adams, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Fams Notice

Kim Procopia sent letter to the Financial Assets Management Systems, Inc. (Fams) stating that the City of Port Republic disputes the validity of this debt and have been in contact with the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to attempt to obtain proof of this debt. Kim Procopia Esq., called DEP directly.

Councilmember Adams recommends sending letter to the NJDEP.

Councilmember Wessler does not recommend sending a letter to the NJDEP.

NEW BUSINESS:

School Issue (Council President Rummler) hold until May Meeting

City Council acknowledged and approved Atlantic County Freeholders to hold their meeting in the new city hall on September 23, 2014 at 4:00 pm.

Mayor Gary Giberson invited the Freeholders.

Historical Society Monies – Revolutionary War Cannon (Councilwoman Doris Bugdon) Hold until May Meeting. Councilmember Kevin Wessler mentioned what Councilwoman Bugdon would like to do with the cannon.

PROCLAMATION:

02-2014 Next Number

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember, Bonthorn seconded by Councilmember Riegel and carried.

Resident Bob Haviland mentioned the school issue, spoke with Council President Rummler on the issue of high school tuition. Some years there is only a handful of students attending Cedar Creek High School and other years there are a larger number of students attending, with that in mind tuition cost vary. The school board is not allowed to have generous surplus the city could set aside an emergency fund.

Councilmember Bonthron stated that it was mentioned earlier and city auditor Ken Moore stated that local government can no longer hold a surplus.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

Hearing nothing further from the public, Councilmember Bonthron moved, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried to close the public portion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded by Councilmember Bonthron to open executive session and carried.

ES 04-2014 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding

1. Comcast Franchise Agreement

On a motion to come out of executive session.

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded by Councilmember Bonthron to close executive session.

On a motion to negotiate the Comcast Franchise agreement for a minimum term of 10 years at a maximum value technology grant, that Comcast is willing to provide.

On the motion of Councilmember Adams, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried.

YES: Adams, Bonthron, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Giberson, Rummler

ABSTAIN:

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bonthron and carried to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC
Municipal Clerk