

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 p.m. MAY 12, 2015
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. On the motion of Council President Rummler, seconded by Councilmember Bugdon, and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Doris Bugdon, Nick Capille, Donna Riegel, Craig Rummler

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: John Bonthron, Kevin Wessler, Roger Giberson

MAYOR: Gary B. Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC

ATTORNEY: Keith Davis, Esq.

INVOCATION: Pastor Frank Brown

Council President Craig Rummler 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 Current Newspaper, a meeting notice setting for the time, date and locations of this meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE APRIL 14, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE APRIL 14, 2015 EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE MAY 2015 BILL LIST

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel (with exception of Evermore PO), Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel (with exception of Evermore PO), Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

PRESENTATION: Atlantic City Electric Question & Answer Forum

Atlantic City Electric (ACE) Representatives: Ken Mosca, Mark Okonowicz, Jason Tucker, Mr. Palphiwala, Mark Newman, Jim Boykin, Ray Rouault, Joe Nice, Amy Williams

Atlantic City Electric representatives provided the following information:

- The project consists of an approx. 15 mile rebuild of the existing 69 kV transmission line between the Moss Mill Substation and the Motts Farm Substation.
- The project traverses the City of Port Republic, Bass River Twp. and Little Egg Harbor Twp.
- Approx. 369 existing wood poles, wire, distribution crossarms and associated attachments will be replaced with the 69kV transmission line on steel poles with a pole or pole replacement.
- Transmission line will be designed, operated and maintained as a 69 KV transmission line
- Poles will be approximately 20 to 25 feet taller than the existing wood poles to meet design criteria and safety standards.
- Transmission line will be designed to current National Electric Safety Code and Atlantic City Electric standards, including 120 mph winds and blizzard conditions with up to 1/2" of ice.
- Following the necessary approvals, major construction is targeted to begin in Fall 2016 with completion in 2017
- Portions of roadways will require traffic management in order to create a safe work environment for equipment, personnel and the public.

Mayor Giberson asked when the completion date is. ACE stated May 2017, dependant upon any restrictions.

Councilwoman Riegel asked if state and federal permits been obtained. ACE responded that they had not yet.

Council President Rummler asked if the poles could be skirted; if the wood poles are maintained do they need to be replaced; why can't the poles run along the parkway rather than through town? Atlantic City Electric stated that base plates are available; not just the pole is replaced but also insulators, wires, hardware, etc. which is why the rebuild project are done and; the distribution is what is going through town and there is not as much right-of-way. Additionally, the wooden versions of the metal poles are equivalent.

Counsel Davis asked if ACE contacted the NJ Turnpike Authority about obtaining additional right-of-way along the parkway; if these poles are constructed can the voltage be increased beyond the 69 kV in the future; if the route going to be exactly what it is now or will ACE have to deviate and acquire additional easement rights; does ACE need to obtain consent from the county regarding county right-of-way; did ACE look at any other route other than the existing route; what is the dimensions of the existing wooden poles compared to the poles ACE is proposing; is there a plan now showing where the larger poles and standard poles are going to be located; what is the cost of the rebuild opposed to burying the lines in the same area; is ACE required to go to Department of Environmental Protection for permits. Atlantic City Electric replied that it had not; the voltage cannot be increased beyond 69 kV; the majority are in the county, public, public municipal right-of-way, there may some occasions were a pole may be shifted were they may be additional easement, as of now the poles will remain in line as they are now but may be adjusted based on some concerns from the county or residents; covered under the Utility Accommodation Act for any public space but Atlantic County reviews road opening permits along with DOT regarding Route 9; no, it was felt that this was the best route since one, they were replacing the existing system and two, upgrading the distribution; wooden poles average 14-16" dimensions, some maybe larger, some smaller, the metal poles average 24-26", the 36-42" dimensions are only where needed; poles are located close to their existing locations, the large poles are not specifically called out; underground typically costs 69 times overhead, there are additional challenges with maintenance over time; permits are required from NJDOT, Pinelands, Us Army Corps of Engineers, County, Environmental Protection and NJ Turnpike.

Councilwoman Bugdon stated that many homes along the route were build prior to 1878 by civil war veterans. The upgraded poles will destroy the flavor of Port Republic and hopes that ACE will consider another alternative and will fight not to have the rusty poles throughout the City.

Linda May, 28 Old New York Rd., expressed her concern that the lines will be in front of her house and is asking that the line be buried.

Bob Haviland, 316 English Creek Rd., suggested an alternate route as to avoid being installed in front of historic homes.

Anthony Mauceri 340 Chestnut Neck Rd., suggested that the lines be buried.

Al Kincade 28 Old New York Rd., why the rebuild wasn't anticipated during the installation of the new substation.

Joanne Kerzner 281 English Creek Rd., asked why wood poles can't be used just as done along Moss Mill and who manufactured the poles.

Tim Gilroy 445 Chestnut Neck Rd., is concerned with the aesthetics of the poles and if other utilities will be able to use the poles.

Tony Barile Paulson Rd., expressed his concern with the aesthetics of the poles and also asked that the lines be buried.

Joe Noll 754 Old New York Rd., asked if the 4 foot pole will be at all turning points and if the 4 foot pole will be used to house the switch gears.

Jack Kelly 161 Pomona Ave., asked if local approval is needed.

Matt Doran Forestry Ordinance

DEP has allowed the City to close the old landfill. However, the Pinelands want the City to pass a forestry ordinance and will not allow the City to close the landfill. Keith Davis suggests a letter go to the Pinelands; Matt Doran will write the letter and have Keith Davis review prior to sending.

Police/Emergency Management:

Sheriff department has been writing tickets. Continue working with State Police on substation. Progress continues with Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Administrative/Personnel:

Working on several prospects on the code enforcement officer; salary will increase for the position to increase to \$5,000 annual salary. The storage trailer has been removed and records retention is being taken care of.

Public Works:

Public works has installed shelving in city hall for storage; they continue to prepare the park for the summer. Fencing has been ordered for several areas of the park. Council President Rummler thanked PRAF for the purchase of the new fencing.

Recreation:

Clean team, life guards and beach badge attendant have been hired. New swings and chains are up, new shed is installed and lifeguard stand is being painted. Suite Inspirations will be playing again at Community Day.

Fire and Ambulance:

Roast beef dinner will be May 16th.

Board of School Estimates:

Council President stated that he notice Veteran's Day has been removed from the school calendar. Mayor Giberson stated he would look into it.

Planning Board:

No Meeting.

Code Enforcement:

No Report.

Construction:

18 Inspections, 5 permits for alterations, 1 new construction for a total of 9; 3 CO inspections for resale.

Senior Services:

There were 20 attendants for the Senior Tea. Evermore did a fantastic job. *Gone with the Breeze* was this year's theme. Councilwoman Bugdon received a thank you note. PTR deadline is June 1st.

Building:

Electric bill has drastically reduced in the new building compared to the trailer.

City Owned Property:

No Report.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

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

Gerry Creighton 270 Chestnut Neck Rd., offered his services to maintain the trails within the City, specifically, Clark's Mill Pond, Rohl's Track and French Estate. Councilwoman Bugdon asked if residence would allow residents to cut firewood from the downed trees. The Mayor stated his concern. Keith Davis stated he would reach out to the County and State regarding the rules and regulations on the matter and maybe emulate something similar in the city.

Bill Smallwood asked pw could rake the beach and close the ramp and if signs could be placed to close the dump. Mayor to touch base with Mr. Smallwood to address the overpass construction work.

Al Kincade asked if the city would consider a new way to I.D. residents at the transfer station as well a detailed list of what is allowed to be dumped.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter dated April 14, 2015 regarding Block 31 Lots 2, 2.01, 2.02, 2.03

Acknowledged

Letter dated April 24, 2015 regarding COAH

Acknowledged

Letter dated May 5, 2015 from Bill Smallwood

Acknowledged

Thank you letter from the General Lafayette Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.

Acknowledged

Correspondence from NJDOT

Acknowledged

Thank you letter from Ruth & Gary Blight

Acknowledged

Invitation to Mayor & City Council for the Atlantic County Veterans Memorial Program

Acknowledged

RESOLUTIONS:

49-2015 Authorizing Change Order #8 between Port Republic & Wilkinson & Sons Construction

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

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

50-2015 Award of Contract Jerry & Son Excavating for Blakes Lane Phase II

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

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES:

03-2015 Salary Ordinance

Public Hearing/Adoption

With a change of \$4,000 to \$5,000 annually for the code enforcement officer

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

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded by Councilmember Capille and carried.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

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

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Buying Generator (*Mayor Giberson*)

Tabled

Parking Lot (*Mayor Giberson*)

Tabled

NEW BUSINESS:

Drop Speed on Clarks Landing from 45 MPH to 35 MPH (*Council President Rummler*)

RESOLUTIONS:

51-2015 Reducing the Speed Limit on Clarks Landing Rd from 45 to 35 MPH

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES:

04-2015 Speed limit on Riverside Dr. Reduced

First Reading/Introduction

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

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

City Flag

Sunday at 1pm at the Port Church is the Eagle Scout ceremony for Serando. Council President would like to have the school students design a city flag. Councilwoman Bugdon recommended a \$100 prize to the winner.

RESOLUTIONS:

52-2015 ACE alternate route for poles

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

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

PROCLAMATION:

Be kind to one another.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

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

Bill Smallwood asked if residents will still receive the Current even if they don't subscribe to The Press.

Tony Barille stated that he has a difficult time understanding what council is stating when they talk amongst themselves.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On the motion of Councilmember Capille, seconded of Councilmember Bugdon and carried.

ES 05-2015 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding

1. Block 6 Lot 51
2. South Jersey Gas
3. Redevelopment
4. Gravelmine

RESOLUTIONS:

53-2015 apply to county Keith Davis Esq., redevelopment

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

YES: Bugdon, Capille, Riegel, Rummler

NO:

ABSENT: Bonthron, Giberson, Wessler

ABSTAIN:

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel, seconded of Councilmember Bugdon and carried to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly A. Campellone
Municipal Clerk