

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 p.m. MARCH 21, 2017
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 Bugdon, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer, and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Allgeyer, Doris Bugdon, Nick Capille, Roger Giberson, Kevin Wessler Sworn in Stanley Kozlowski

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Donna Riegel

MAYOR: Mayor Gary Giberson

DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK: Gina Simon

ATTORNEY: Keith Davis, Esq.

Council President Doris Bugdon 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 FEBRUARY 14, 2017 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE FEBRUARY14, 2017 EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE MARCH 2017 BILL LIST

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel
ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Wessler
NO:

ABSENT: Riegel
ABSTAIN:

Motion to elect Stanley Kozlowski to City Council Ward I

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, second by Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Wessler
NO:

ABSENT: Riegel
ABSTAIN:

Oath of Office

Deputy City Clerk Gina Simon administered the Oath of Office to Stanley Kozlowski.

ORDINANCE 01-2017-CAP RATE

First Reading/Introduction

On the motion of Councilmember Giberson second by Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Kozlowski, Wessler
NO:

ABSENT: Riegel
ABSTAIN:

The adoption of the COLA ordinance allows for an increase of in CAP appropriations by 3.5% instead of the automatic 2%. Additionally, it allows for banking of unused CAP for up to two years.

Budget 2017

First Reading/Introduction

On the motion of Councilmember Giberson second by Councilmember Capille and carried.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Kozlowski, Wessler
NO:

ABSENT: Riegel
ABSTAIN:

The City currently has \$666,000 in surplus; \$190,000 of the fund balance is currently reflected in the budget – which has historically been made up each year – leaving a remaining balance of \$476,000. Even with the revaluation, this budget should keep the tax rate fairly even for most people, there will be a slight shift because of the revaluation but, should keep things relatively stable; and keep the debt stable even if the school decides to move forward with any projects.

After this year there will be \$300,000 remaining in debt and if \$100,000 is paid each year the debt will be paid without ever having to go out for permanent debt and never having an increase in the tax rate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

Mayor Giberson reported everything is working well. The sign for the New Jersey State Police is complete.

Administrative/Personnel:

The Personnel Committee is working on the personnel policy and will have a meeting in the upcoming month.

Public Works:

Councilman Wessler reported everything is going very well. The department is ready for the spring, all the equipment has been serviced. Jimmy and Danny will be getting the salt trucks cleaned up. Back board for the tennis courts is being worked on. Mayor Giberson commended Councilman Wessler on a job well done with the Public Works Department.

Recreation:

Council President Bugdon has an application for a lifeguard she will follow up on. Regarding Community Day, the fireworks are contracted along with the music to be provided. Four Port Youths have been hired for the clean team. Council President Bugdon spoke with several mothers in the community to assist with the children's games during community day.

Fire and Ambulance:

Councilman Wessler reported presently they are redoing the kitchen at the firehouse; they are coming in line with what the health department requires for commercial kitchens.

Board of School Estimates:

Mayor Giberson is amazed at the new principal/school superintendent. The best superintended in the school since he became Mayor and is very happy with what is going on with the school. The school is looking to put on a new roof this year. The

superintendent is looking to get more choice students; many people move here for the school.

Planning Board:

No Report.

Code Enforcement:

One issue.

Construction:

Construction Official report: 2 alterations and 1 CO resale; a total of 21 inspections were conducted.

Senior Services:

Council President Bugdon is very busy handing out physical health aids. She is being inundated with requests. This community is blessed for what we are able to do for them.

Building:

No report

OPEN SPACE

Councilmember Capille mentioned that Gerry Creighton is doing trail work and cleaning up in the trails; he requested permission for large items that are too big to handle be placed on Riverside Drive by the trailhead for Public Works to pick up. He placed a memorial bench for his wife on the Mill Pond trail. Additionally, he mentioned increased activity with ATVs and dirt bikes; Councilmember Capille suggested to somehow combat the issue. Councilman Capille realizes it is a difficult issue to take care of. Mayor Giberson requested signs placed on the trails advising no motorized vehicles on the trails along with the ordinance with a penalty; Mayor Giberson expressed concern that a spark from one of the ATVs or dirt bikes could start a terrible forest fire.

Councilman Capille also noticed a neighbor in the back trails taking down dead trees. No motorized vehicles are permitted in open space. Council President Bugdon suggested speaking with this individual to let them know it is not permissible.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Giberson, seconded by Councilmember Wessler and carried.

Resident Mike Turner went before the planning board regarding his property located at Holly Creek; the planning board suggested he start with Mayor and City Council. Mike would like would to sell the property to the City for Green Acres. The property is 85 acres. They are all buildable lots. It is adjacent to the French Estate. City Solicitor Keith Davis mentioned looking at the tax assessment. Mayor Giberson stated the concern for affordable housing.

Resident Bob Haviland concerned about the paving on Pomona Ave, from Blakes Lane west to Route 575; he stated it is breaking up. On Pomona Avenue west of Mill Street there are three cedar trees that are in the City's right-of-way and need to come down, as it is a safety concern. Councilmember Wessler will have Public Works look into it. Mayor Giberson suggested that the City Engineer look into Pomona Ave.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Casino Pilot Law
(Acknowledged)

RESOLUTIONS:

36-2017 Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Land to the Port Republic Board of Education

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Kozlowski, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES:

02-2017 Salary Ordinance

First Reading/Introduction

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Kozlowski, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

03-2017 Regarding the use of Open Space during Hunting Season

First Reading/Introduction

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Kozlowski, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

Keith Davis advised that the city should a standard deed restriction to keep property open to all of the public.

Councilmember Capille would like to see more in writing. Keith Davis suggested a resolution to have certain conditions in place.

04-2017 Amending Chapter 160 Land Use of the code of the City of Port Republic in response to Amendments to the Pinelands comprehensive Management Plan Tabled on the motion of Councilmember Giberson, seconded of Councilmember Wessler

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Capille, Giberson, Kozlowski, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

Ordinance was tabled; Roger Giberson suggested setting up a meeting with the pinelands.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Verizon: Keith Davis stated that Verizon still looking into issue.

Route 610 Bridge: No update

Mill Street and Main Street Stop Sign: No stop sign warranted.

Redevelopment: City Solicitor Keith Davis asked if there are any questions regarding the redevelopment issues. The City has not adopted a redevelopment plan. If any city councilmembers have any questions regarding redevelopment please contact Keith. The governing body has not requested that Keith move forward with the redevelopment issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Whispering Woods Subdivision: Letter form Matt Doran, regarding Block 34 various lots within the subdivision, requesting Frank D'Agostino fix the asphalt base. If he does not address this issue the City will contact the performance bond surety to receive the funds to do the repairs.

PROCLAMATION:

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Giberson, seconded by Councilmember Wessler and carried.

Nick Lampe 486 Chestnut Neck Road feasibility what is the weight class for the new bridge; he would like to make sure the fire trucks will be able to cross the bridge. Mayor conveyed the city really appreciates the volunteer fire department.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ES **03-2017** Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding

1. Gravelmine

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Giberson, seconded of Councilmember Capille and carried to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC
Municipal Clerk