

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 p.m. JULY 10, 2018
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 Riegel and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Doris Bugdon, Roger Giberson, Stanley Kozlowski, Thomas Kurtz, Donna Riegel, Kevin Wessler

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Steven Allgeyer

MAYOR: Gary Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC

ATTORNEY: Ray Went, 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 JUNE 12, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE JULY 2018 BILL LIST

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN: Bugdon PO #18-00122, Giberson PO #18-00322

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS

On the motion of Councilmember Riegel seconded of Councilmember Kozlowski and carried.

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN: Bugdon PO #18-00122, Giberson PO #18-0211

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

Mayor Giberson has been receiving weather alerts daily regarding the record heat. He has been looking after the citizens and the seniors. Everything is going well with the court. The State Police are monitoring Riverside Drive.

Administrative/Personnel:

No report

Public Works:

Mayor Giberson mentioned that there are a lot of trees growing out into the right-of-way on Pomona Avenue. He asked Councilmember Wessler if the guys in Public Works could take care of them once the weather gets cooler. Councilmember Wessler said he would investigate the issue, but it may be private property.

Recreation:

Council President Bugdon reported that the count for the Port Beach has been coming back with elevated levels, the beach has been closed for several days. The County has additionally tested Mill Pond and results are forthcoming. The City is working diligently with the County and trying to find the source.

Fire and Ambulance:

No report

Board of School Estimates:

No meeting. Mayor Giberson stated that he appointed Suzanne Bellino to the School Board as there was a vacancy.

Planning Board:

No meeting, no report

Code Enforcement/Construction:

No report

Senior Services:

Council President Bugdon is still passing out equipment and is still getting it back. She feels this service is really being utilized.

Building:

No report

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Wessler, seconded by Councilmember Giberson and carried to open public portion.

Resident Bob Haviland of 316 English Creek Road, mentioned that the County Mosquito Commission had recently checked the bridge at Indian Cabin Road and there is a large mass of roots growing by the bridge. He stated that it could be collecting debris there and may have something to do with the issue of the beach or it may not, but it needs to be cleaned.

Resident Jenell Keller of 82 Riverside Drive, addressed her concerns of the list of towns to be eliminated within the State and Port Republic being on the list. Councilmember Giberson stated it will not happen, the City cannot run any better with then we do with the limited number of employees that we have. Jenell stated that she could not imagine the City running any better if there was a shared service with another municipality.

Resident Steve Mars of 333 Clarks Landing Road, spoke regarding the letter he wrote to Council regarding the Route 610 Bridge. He is concerned that we have a historic landmark and the proposed bridge will change our community. Councilmember Giberson that it will not change the community and that Mr. Mars letter made great points for the replacement of the current bridge. The bridge cannot be repaired, and if nothing is done to replace it, it will fall into the creek. It cannot be restored to what it once was. The new bridge will benefit the residents. The County and City have been working together. Mayor Giberson discussed the history of the bridge and that he is working with Dennis Levinson to keep the steel trusses. He does not want to see a monstrosity there to take away from the character of Port Republic. Mr. Mars would like the county to come out to Port Republic regarding the Bridge. Mayor Giberson stated we had a meeting over one year ago. City Solicitor Ray Went mentioned that some specifics were mentioned regarding the bridge at that meeting. Councilmember Riegel questioned if there will be timber on the bridge, and Councilmember Giberson stated no. Mr. Mars stated he would like the bridge to be preserved. Councilmember Giberson stated it is not going to happen, with the safety regulations that are in place. Councilmember Wessler mentioned the county is not going to put money out that they must maintain. Councilmember Giberson mentioned 20 years ago a much bigger bridge was discussed. Steve Mars would like the look of a timber bridge to keep the historic look of Port Republic. Councilmember Giberson and Council member Wessler stated they will not build a timber bridge. Steve Mars stated we will lose the character of the community Councilmember Giberson stated that the character of the community is sitting in this room and they have worked very hard to maintain the character of this community.

Resident Dave Ablett from the Port Store, spoke in regard to the Post Office closing. He stated he had the opportunity at Port Day to update people on what is going on with the Port Store. He also invited them to sign a petition to reach out to the Senators to save the Port Store. At that time, he was able to obtain 34 signatures. He spoke with a majority of the people who signed, and he heard a lot of stories of how people stopped

using the Post Office due to issues they were having with their mail. Because of this, many residents started using Offices outside of Port Republic. Mr. Ablett offered his services in any way he could to see what can be done about them bringing the Post Office back. City Solicitor Ray Went stated that attacking the Post Office is the wrong way to go the Post Office should be approached by why they should be here, and not what they did wrong. The City tried everything to keep the Post Office. City Council concurred that if he would like to do a petition he is more than welcome to do one. City Solicitor Ray Went stated that the City cannot stop you or endorse you to do a petition. It is on your own. The City is working on other locations to place the Post Office.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from resident Steve Mars concerning the Route 610 Bridge
Acknowledged

Thank you letter from Bill Smallwood regarding the Jersey Genesis Triathlon
Acknowledged

Letter form Crown Castle *Table for next meeting*
Councilmember Giberson requested City Attorney Ray Went to look into the contract between Port Republic and Crown Castle.

Crown Castle Renewal Lease *Table for next meeting*
Councilmember Giberson requested City Attorney Ray Went to look into the contract between Port Republic and Crown Castle.

RESOLUTIONS:

56-2018 Amending Resolution 46-2018 Concurring Resolution

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kurtz, Kozlowski, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN:

57-2018 Chapter 159 Clean Communities

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN:

58-2018 Encouraging the use of reusable cloth type shopping bags or biodegradable bags as opposed to single use plastic bags.

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN:

Councilmember Riegel stated if we can send a letter to businesses in Port Rpeublic.

59-2018 A Resolution Authorizing a “Change Fund” for use by the Clerk/Vital Statistic Department

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES:

03-2018 Prohibiting Parking of Hazmat Vehicles on Residential Property
Second Reading/*Public Hearing*

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

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Kozlowski, Kurtz, Riegel, Wessler

NO:

ABSENT: Allgeyer

ABSTAIN:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

United States Post Office *Mr. Ablett spoke earlier regarding this issue.*

Motorcross update

No new update

Route 610 Bridge

City Clerk Campellone apprised everyone that the plans are in her office.

NEW BUSINESS:

Port Beach

City Council is working on trying to figure out what the problem is.

Letter to Mayor Giberson from Pinelands Preservation Alliance, regarding Stormwater
Acknowledged

Landscaping around City Hall

Councilman Wessler reported that he had Kim contact Galloway Nursery to give the City an idea on what to do. The landscaper gave the city a plan. Councilmember Wessler would like to get the boxwoods and other evergreens in place this fall, the rest we will do in stages. Mayor Giberson thanked Councilmember Wessler and City Clerk Campellone for a job well done.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Giberson proclaimed be thankful for this wonderful country we live in.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

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

Mr. Steve Mars volunteered to help with the planting around City Hall, specifically native plantings.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ES **06-2018** Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding

1. N/A

ADJOURNMENT 7:55pm

On the motion of Councilmember Wessler seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC Municipal Clerk