

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 p.m. NOVEMBER 9, 2021
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 Kozlowski, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Allgeyer, Roger Giberson, Stanley Kozlowski, Jacob Nass, Donna Riegel

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Doris Bugdon, Thomas Kurtz

ACTING MAYOR: Stanley Kozlowski

DEPUTY CITY CLERK: Brandy M. Blevin, RMC

ATTORNEY: Ray Went, Esq.

Council President Kozlowski 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.

Acting Mayor Kozlowski congratulated Mayor-Elect Niki Giberson, Councilmember Steven Allgeyer and Councilmember Doris Bugdon for their 2022 election win.

MOTION TO APPROVE SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 EXECUTIVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE OCTOBER 12, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE OCTOBER 12, 2021 EXECUTIVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER 2021 BILL LIST

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

Council President Kozlowski read the report into record submitted by Emergency Management Coordinator Scott Winneberger:

- Nothing significant to report from the Office of Emergency Management.
- The City of Port Republic did experience significant flooding during the storm on 10/29/2021 that resulted in significant flooding on Riverside Drive, the beach, Park Avenue, Chestnut Neck Boat Yard area, and English Creek Road coming into town. Due to the flooding, Dave from Public Works assisted by closing Park Avenue, Riverside Drive, and Chestnut Neck Road by the monument with cones and barrels. The County Roads Department was contacted to place barrels on English Creek Road to warn of flooded areas and to close the intersection of Pitney Road and Riverside Drive. The Port Republic Fire Department assisted clearing trees from roadway on Riverside Drive, Chestnut Neck Road and Clarks Landing Road.

Acting Mayor Kozlowski added:

- He met with the State Police and they were very cordial and very desirous in helping the City. They are asking the residents to see them as their police department. Call them with any issues or problems.

- Emergency Management Coordinator Scott Winneberger is interested in knowing of areas of speeding so we can continue to monitor the issue. In addition to calling the State Police, it is encouraged to let City Hall know about a chronic issue.
- One additional solar speed sign is being purchased this year and we will work on budgeting for more in 2022.

Administrative/Personnel:

Council President Kozlowski reported:

- Tax Collector collected \$178,641.06 in the month of October
- The Clerk's Office collected a total of \$96,339.20 during the month of October
- The CFO also included a Current Fund Summary for September 2021

Chief Financial Officer Jenna Kelly reported:

- We will be starting the 2022 budget process now.
- She sent out budget worksheets to the department heads today, November 10th.
- She will be in the Office now two Monday's a month from 8:30 am until 11:00 am if anyone has any questions or concerns to address with her. She can also be reached by email.

Public Works:

Council President Kozlowski read the November 2021 Public Works Department Report into record:

- Continuing to monitor dam levels – raising and lowering sluice gates as needed
- Expected delivery of the new dump truck has been delayed to January 2022
- Reviewing options on revamping or installing new spillway at the dam with County, State and Federal Officials
- Cleaned up debris and closed roads during October 29th storm and extreme tide event
- New solar speed limit sign was delivered and will be installed on Chestnut Neck Road during the first week of November

Council President Kozlowski added:

- Special thanks to Joe Martin for the marker on the bulkhead to help monitor the dam.
- The expertise of Dave Eisenhard and Bill Montag have been of great help with the dam situation.
- A number of meetings have been held regarding the dam. We have met with Congressman VanDrew's Office and one of his assistants were in town. We have met with the State for funding. This will be a process and will take time.

Councilmember Riegel added:

- With the 2022 budget process being started, she would like to know if she can find out how much it would cost to purchase a woodchipper. Council President Kozlowski responded that could be done. We have received a quote to clear the whole lot in the amount of \$13,000.00. Councilmember Giberson asked if we

could use Charles Auchter. Council President Kozlowski explained that the company is unable to do the work until May of 2022. Councilmember Giberson will try to contact him to see if anything can be done before then.

Recreation:

Council President Kozlowski reported:

- The Annual Tree Lighting is scheduled for Thursday, December 2nd.
- Councilmember Bugdon replaced the flags at the Veterans Memorial Area.

Fire and Ambulance:

Fire Department Chief John Yochim reported:

- The semi-annual roast beef dinner was a great success and they sold out early.
- He asked Council if a study has ever been conducted on Mill Pond certifying that it has not dried out in 50 years. This is being requested by the insurance company so they can continue to pump water from the pond. Councilmember Giberson responded that we would absolutely take care of this. Council President Kozlowski will contact Engineer Doran for this.

Board of School Estimates:

No report

Planning Board:

No report

Construction Department / Code Enforcement:

Construction Official Kevin Cain submitted a report for the month of October. During the month of October, a total of 12 inspections were done, and the following permits were issued:

- 8 Alterations
- 5 Zoning Permit

There are no ongoing Code Enforcement issues.

Senior Services/Clean Communities:

No report

Marijuana Legalization & Licensing:

No report

Historical:

Councilmember Riegel reported:

- Council was provided with a copy of the proposal from Engineer Doran for Engineering/Architectural Services for the City Owned Garage.

Motion to move forward with plans to rehab the City Garage for Port Republic Historic Museum and Senior Meeting Hall by way of grants and to make every effort not to impact taxpayer money:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

Liquor Licensing:

Councilmember Nass questioned:

- He knows there are two types, but is there a third seasonal type? Deputy Clerk Blevin responded that she believes the restaurant type license could be all year or seasonal, but not that you could have both options.

Councilmember Giberson asked:

- Would the City be entitled to a license for a distillery?

Council President Kozlowski added:

- We are nearing the end of the year and this can be revisited in 2022.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

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

Niki Giberson, 300 Sooy's Landing Road, stated that she knows Port Republic has historically been a dry town. She asked if that had since gone away. Attorney Went explained that if the City wants to move forward with liquor licensing in town, we will have to go out for referendum to the voters.

Mike Trupkiewics, 58 Pomona Avenue, stated that Halloween was awesome this year. Councilmember Giberson added that the residents went above and beyond this year and that it was probably one of the best Halloweens he has seen in Port Republic.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Port Republic received funding for Mill Street
\$250,000.00

Acknowledged

RESOLUTIONS:

78-2021 Transfer of Monies 2021

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

79-2021 Authorizing Refund of Maintenance Guarantee for Holly Creek Subdivision

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

80-2021 Authorizing Requested Extended Leave of Absence Without Pay to Kyle Ayers (return date of November 5, 2021)

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES – ADOPTION / 2ND READING:

05-2021 An Ordinance Establishing Administrative Fees for Documents Related to Vital Statistics

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

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

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

YES: Allgeyer, Giberson, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel

NO:

ABSENT: Bugdon, Kurtz

ABSTAIN:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Proposal from Doran Engineering for Engineering/Architectural Services for the City Owned Garage

Council President Kozlowski explained that the City received two proposals: one from Endicott Engineering and one from Doran Engineering. The City's Construction Official, Kevin Cain, will look at the property. The first step will be to determine if the foundation is sounded and whether the building can be rehabilitated.

NEW BUSINESS:

Best Practices Inventory 2021 (Discussion)

Council President Kozlowski explained that the 2021 Best Practices Inventory was completed by Clerk Campellone and CFO Jenna Kelly. This survey shows that the City is performing professionally and enables our State Aid to come every year.

Holiday Party

Council President Kozlowski announced that the Holiday Party will be held and Fred & Ethel's on Friday, December 17th.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

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

Joe Martin, 5 Mill Street, stated that in 1997 we received 15" of rain and it washed out the dam and multiple bridges. He believes the pond went dry at this time.

Councilmember Giberson responded that it did not go dry at that time. Chief John Yochim agreed that the pond did not dry out with that storm.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ES 11-2021 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding

1. School Board Referendum

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilmember Giberson moved, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to enter into executive session at 7:01 pm.

CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilmember Allgeyer moved, seconded of Councilmember Giberson and carried to close executive session at 7:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded of Councilmember Giberson and carried to adjourn at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Campellone, RMC
Municipal Clerk