

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 P.M. DECEMBER 13, 2022
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 Bugdon and carried to close the workshop portion of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Allgeyer, Doris Bugdon, Stanley Kozlowski, Jacob Nass, Donna Riegel, Michael Turner

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Roger Giberson

MAYOR: Monica Giberson

DEPUTY CITY CLERK: Brandy M. Blevin, RMC

ATTORNEY: William Kaufmann, 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 location of this meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER 15, 2022, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE DECEMBER 2022 BILL LIST

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

No report

Administrative/Personnel:

Tax Collector submitted a report for November 2022, showing a total received amount of \$616,362.45.

City Clerk's Office submitted a report for November 2022, showing a total amount received of \$4,746.46.

Chief Financial Officer submitted a report for October 2022, showing an ending balance of \$1,345,899.46. Additionally submitted was the report for November 2022, showing an ending balance of \$1,752,800.14.

Council President Kozlowski thanked the CFO for her timely reports submitted as well as the Budget to Actual Report.

Public Works:

Council President Kozlowski read the November 2022 Public Works Council report:

- Continued park and property maintenance throughout town.
- Continued tree trimming throughout town.
- Monitored and lowered the dam as needed.
- Hired Joseph Mason as a part-time employee, he will be working at the Transfer Station.
- Refurbished 6-ton trailer in house saving a few thousand dollars and extending the life of it.
- Put up the lights on the City Christmas Tree.

Recreation:

Councilmember Bugdon reported:

- The Tree Lighting event was wonderful, and this was the largest attendance we have ever had.
- She thanked those who made cookies for the Tree Lighting event.

Fire and Ambulance:

No report

Planning Board:

Councilmember Riegel reported:

- The Planning Board held a special meeting on Monday, November 28th regarding the redevelopment of the old gravel mine site for community solar.
- The City's Planner, Jim Rutala, presented at that meeting.
- There are eight (8) conditions, and one of those has to apply to the area. According to Mr. Rutala, there is one (1) area that does apply.
- There will be a Public Hearing scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2023.

Code Enforcement/Construction:

Construction Official Kevin Cain submitted a report for the month of November. During the month, a total of 11 inspections were done, and the following permits were issued:

- 5 Alterations
- 0 Demo
- 1 New
- 1 Addition
- 4 Zoning Permits
- 2 CO Inspections for Resale
- *Total of 13*

There are no current code enforcement issues.

Senior Services / Clean Communities:

Councilmember Bugdon reported:

- She will start working with Emergency Management Coordinator Scott Winneberger to create a list of seniors and those who will need assistance in the case of an emergency.
- She would also like to work on getting a list of people in the community, especially teenagers, who would be willing to help shovel snow for seniors.

Marijuana Legalization & Licensing:

No report

Heritage Society:

Councilmember Riegel reported:

- The November meeting was cancelled.
- The Heritage Society currently has a balance of \$3,483.28 in their account.

Construction:

A report was submitted by City Engineer Matt Doran, which Council President Kozlowski read through. The items addressed were:

- Reconstruction or replacement of the dam at Mill Street
- Paving of Wilson Avenue
- ADA Upgrades at the Port Republic Beach
- Re-location of the storm water drainpipe at the Beach
- Reconstruction of Mill Street

Liquor Licensing:

No report

2022 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION:

Mayor Giberson and Councilmember Bugdon presented a plaque to 2022 Volunteer of the Year, Jennifer Williams.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

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

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from County Executive Dennis Levinson Regarding Signage at Boling Cemetery (corner of Pomona Avenue & Moss Mill Road)

Acknowledged – the cemetery in question is not owned by the City and the County has been made aware of the owner on record.

Letter from ACUA Regarding 2023 Rates and Fees – Public Hearing Scheduled for December 15, 2022, at 3:00 pm at the Authority Administrative Building, 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ

Acknowledged

Notice from Bass River Township – Master Plan Examination Report – Public Hearing on December 21, 2022, 7:00 pm
Acknowledged

Port Republic Board of Education Resolutions – Special Election & November Election
Acknowledged – the resolutions will be voted upon by the Port Republic Board of Education at their next meeting to be held on December 21, 2022.

RESOLUTIONS:

86-2022 Appointment of Convenience Center Attendant in the Department of Public Works
(Joseph Mason)

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

87-2022 Transfer Resolution 2022

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

88-2022 Resolution of Support from Local Governing Body Authorizing the FY 2022 Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG) Application Funded by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

89-2022 Resolution of the City of Port Republic, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Cancellation of Grant Approved Reserves (Pomona Avenue Municipal Aid - \$1,892.32)

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

90-2022 Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of a File Cabinet No Longer Suitable or Needed for Public Use

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

Councilmember Bugdon questioned if the filing cabinet was in too bad of shape that it could not have been given to the Heritage Society. Mayor Giberson responded that the filing cabinet was broken, but she does have a filing cabinet they could use.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

91-2022 Resolution Authorizing the City of Port Republic to Enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Galloway for Sharing of Fueling Facility for Gasoline/Diesel

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded of Councilmember Bugdon and carried. Councilmember Nass questioned who worked on the Agreement. Council President Kozlowski responded that this was put together by our Public Works Director Bill Montag and the Galloway Township Public Works Director. Councilmember Nass commented that it was a good job.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

92-2022 Resolution Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget of the City of Port Republic Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) Regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (amount - \$150,000.00)

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Nass and carried. Councilmember Allgeyer wanted to confirm that by accepting this funding from the State, we would still be in control of the beach. Mayor Giberson confirmed that we would still have control of our beach.

Councilmember Riegel stated that she was confused and had thought that the City was going to try to use the CDBG funding for the old garage project. Council President Kozlowski responded that this is money we have been accruing over the years and that even after this project there will be money left over in the amount of about \$100,000.00. He added that the money being used is very restricted and can only be used under certain circumstances.

Councilmember Turner stated that on the bid spreadsheet provided there were large discrepancies in some of the line items. He questioned if the size of the shed was listed in the specs since that was one of the big price points. Deputy City Clerk Blevin responded that we are not awarding the project at this point, but the bid specs are available for inspection in the City Clerk's Office.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES:

NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ADA Improvements to Port Republic Beach – Apparent Low Bidder/Recommendation to Award (CDBG FY 2021 Project)
A resolution to award this project will be on the January 2023 City Council Meeting Agenda.
- Community Solar Project
The redevelopment is moving along. The Planning Board will be holding a public hearing on January 9, 2023

NEW BUSINESS:

- Goose Work by USDA – decision needed for 2023
On the motion of Council President Kozlowski, seconded of Councilmember Riegel to authorize the USDA to continue the goose control project for 2023.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Kozlowski, Nass, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Giberson

ABSTAIN:

- 2023 Reorganization & Regular Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 6:00 pm
- Councilmember Riegel requested a retired flag box be placed at City Hall. A request will be sent to Bill Montag to construct and place the box at City Hall.
- Councilmember Riegel would like to see a revenue committee be created to brainstorm different avenues to try to bring revenue into the City. They could also work on the old gravel pit location to ensure that community solar is the highest and best function for that land. Council President Kozlowski agreed and said that this should be addressed in 2023 with whomever the new City Council President will be.

MAYOR'S REPORT / PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Giberson reported:

- If anyone is interested in running to be a member of the school board, they can go online to get a petition. Only 10 signatures are needed. There are four (4) open positions.
- The Port Republic School kids sang at the Tree Lighting Event, and it was wonderful. Many of the kids have never sung in front of people before.
- A child from the Port School gave Mayor Giberson \$10 and thanked her for doing such a wonderful job. She told the boy that at the Earth Day Event next year we will be purchasing trees to hand them out to people for free and his money would go towards that. She is trying to plan events that are self-sustaining and do not use taxpayer money.
- There is a program at the school called Port Republic Enrichment Program (PREP) that is 4-6 weeks in length and people can come to teach the kids after school. They are unable to do the program this winter due to a lack of volunteers.

Mayor Giberson and Councilmember Bugdon presented Council President Kozlowski with an award recognizing his passion and commitment to the City. Council President thanked the residents, the employees, the professionals and Mayor and Council. He ended by saying it has been his sincerest pleasure to serve the City and work with the City team.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer seconded by Councilmember Nass and carried.

Joe Martin, 5 Mill Street, stated that someone from South Jersey Gas approached his son in town and told him that there will be a gas line going down Clarks Landing Road and asked if he would be interested in gas service. Mr. Martin questioned if the City knows about this or if it could be a scam. Councilmember Nass responded that this is not a scam, but they are probably fishing for business from his son.

Fire Chief John Yochim questioned if the Gas Company would need permission from the City to open any streets or roadways. Councilmember Nass responded that they do not open streets and roadways like they used to do. Mayor Giberson responded that she would check into this.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding South Jersey Gas and whether they are able to come into Port Republic. This will be investigated further by Mayor Giberson.

CLOSED TO THE FLOOR FOR TOPICS FOR PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ES 12-2022 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding:

1. N/A

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy M. Blevin, RMC
Deputy City Clerk