

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 14, 2025 – 6:30 pm

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

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Allgeyer, David Crawford, Roger Giberson, Eugene Hawn, Michael Turner

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Donna Riegel, Jeffrey Ropiecki

MAYOR: Monica Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Brandy M. Blevin, RMC

ATTORNEY: Manny Sanfilippo, Esq.

Council President Giberson called the meeting to order and led 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 Hammonton Gazette, a meeting notice setting for the time, date, and location of this meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Hawn and carried to approve the September 9, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes.

YES: Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN: Allgeyer

MOTION TO APPROVE OCTOBER 2025 BILL LIST:

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Hawn and carried to approve the October 2025 Bill List.

YES: Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN: Allgeyer

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS:

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Turner and carried to pay all signed bills.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

No report.

Administrative/Personnel:

Mayor and Council received monthly reports from the Municipal Clerk, Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer.

The Municipal Clerk's report for September 2025 showed a total amount received of \$9,780.91.

The Tax Collector's report for September 2025 showed a total amount received of \$38,669.98.

The Chief Financial Officer provided a Budget to Actual Report Through September 30, 2025.

Council President Giberson reported that everything is running smoothly, and he thanked Clerk Blevin for all of her hard work.

Public Works:

Councilmember Allgeyer reported that the department has been working on building platforms under the benches and over hangs for some of the equipment stored in the yard. They are still mowing and cutting. The County has been notified about the condition of the bridge on Riverside Drive, and they are scheduled to come out and repair it.

They discussed the condition of the pickup truck and that it may not make it through the winter.

Councilmember Turner also mentioned that pictures of the lifeguard stand were sent to him showing the condition. He would like to reach out to some Boy Scouts who are working towards their Eagle Scout Project and see if they could do the stand as their project. They agreed this would be a good idea.

They also discussed the condition of the floating dock located at the boat ramp. Councilmember Turner may have one that he can donate. Council President Giberson said that if we cannot use the dock Councilmember Turner has, this will need to be budgeted for next year. He also said that if any material is needed, he would be happy to donate it.

Recreation:

Councilmember Turner reported that he is still getting a lot of positive feedback about the new courts. During the recent storm he did come out and look, and it looked like they are high enough that they did not get covered. He is also working on submitting a request to the Army Air Guard to have a helicopter at next year's Port Day event.

He also shared that the Duct Tape Boat Regatta was an awesome event, and he thanked Val Kozlowski and everyone else who volunteered their time.

Fire and Ambulance:

Councilmember Hawn reported that it has been a busy month so far. They had a few calls related to the storm over the weekend (10/10/25 – 10/13/25) related to trees falling and also cars needing assistance that stalled out in the flood waters.

He also said that the Fire Department Dinner is coming up on Saturday, October 18th and he asked that everyone come out and support.

Council President Giberson shared how thankful Mayor and Council are for the Fire Department.

Planning Board:

No report.

Construction/Code Enforcement:

Construction Official Pat Naticchione submitted a report for the month of September 2025.

During the month of September, a total of 17 inspections were done, and the following permits were issued:

- 4 Alteration
- 0 Demos
- 1 New
- 0 Addition
- 2 Zoning Permits
- 0 CO Inspection / Resale
- Total of 5

The following code enforcement issues were notated:

- 4 property maintenance letters were issued – waiting on violation notice date

The Construction Official will be changing his hours beginning on Thursday, October 16, 2025, to Tuesdays and Thursday from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm.

Land Use:

No report.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

Bob Haviland, 316 English Creek Road, shared that Atlantic County put a sign up near him that reads “Pricetown Mills EH 07”. This sign does not belong there. He will give the information to Clerk Blevin and she will reach out to the County to let them know.

CLOSE TO PUBLIC PORTION:

Hearing nothing more from the public, on the motion of Councilmember Turner seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to close the public portion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter from Deborah Wahl, City Engineer, Regarding Report of Bids for LA-2025 Reconstruction of Adams Avenue – dated September 11, 2025

There is a Resolution listed on the Agenda to award this contract.

- Letter from Amber Cutano, County Alliance Coordinator Regarding Municipal Alliance Funding FY27-FY31 – dated October 7, 2025 (*response due by 10/27/25*)

It was decided to not apply for this funding.

RESOLUTIONS:

76-2025 Resolution Confirming the Review & Completion of the CY2024/SFY2025 Best Practices Inventory

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 76-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN:

77-2025 Authorize Application for Ocean Wind Pro-NJ Grantor Trust Grant (*funding for Mill Dam Project*)

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adopt Resolution 77-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN:

78-2025 Resolution Denouncing Political Violence

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 78-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN:

79-2025 Awarding Contract to Arawak Paving Co., Inc. for Reconstruction of Adams Avenue

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adopt Resolution 79-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN:

80-2025 Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with the Atlantic County Improvement Authority for Participation in a County-Wide Lead-Based Paint Inspection Program
On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Hawn and carried to adopt Resolution 80-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel, Ropiecki

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES – 1ST READING/INTRODUCTION:

None

ORDINANCES – 2nd READING/ADOPTION:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Redevelopment Plan – 400 English Creek Road

Mayor Giberson has a meeting with a Professor from Stockton University scheduled for Thursday, October 16th. They have a class where a group of students will brainstorm ideas for the site.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Saturday, October 18th – Port Fire Company Dinner
- Saturday, October 25th – Fall Fest / Movie Night
- Friday, October 31st 6 pm until 8 pm – Trick-or-Treat

We will be closing down Main Street again for trick-or-treaters. This worked well last year and made it safer for everyone.

MAYOR’S REPORT/PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Giberson reported the following:

- She has been in contact with a reenactment group and is hopeful that they will be able to attend next year’s Port Day event. We are looking at possibly extending the hours next year if they do come. There has been a meeting with a committee and some ideas that have been mentioned were: doing a play from 1987 about the history of Port Republic, having a George Washington lookalike contest, bigger parade, float contest, among other ideas.
- On Saturday, October 4th there was a Sons of the American Revolution celebration at the Monument. They also dedicated the new sign that was placed along Park Avenue, near the beach parking lot, for the cemetery on the hill. About 40 people attended.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

John Yochim, 462 Chestnut Neck Road, advised Mayor and Council that the Fire Department will need to have their hoses tested. He asked if it would be okay if they did this testing along Park Avenue near the ballfield. They would need to close that portion of Park Avenue off. Mayor and Council approved and just asked if John could let City Hall know when they are doing this so we are aware.

CLOSE TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ES 10-2025 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding:

1. N/A

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy M. Blevin, RMC
Municipal Clerk