

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 18, 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, Donna Riegel, Jeffrey Ropiecki, Michael Turner

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT:

MAYOR: Monica Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Brandy M. Blevin, RMC

ATTORNEY: William J. Kaufmann, 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 OCTOBER 14, 2025, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to approve the October 14, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN: Ropiecki

MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER 2025 BILL LIST:

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to approve the November 2025 Bill List.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

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 October 2025 showed a total amount received of \$11,394.22.

The Tax Collector's report for October 2025 showed a total amount received of \$230,619.15.

The Chief Financial Officer provided a Budget to Actual Report Through October 31, 2025.

Councilmember Ropiecki reported that everything is running smoothly thanks to Clerk Blevin and said all employees are doing a good job.

Public Works:

Councilmember Allgeyer reported that the department has been cleaning up trash and conducting normal maintenance. He did bring up that the old pickup truck is not going to last much longer and asked that we keep this in mind. They discussed looking into purchasing a used truck.

Recreation:

No report.

Fire and Ambulance:

Councilmember Hawn reported that the Fire Company is making progress with the new fire truck. Overall, it was a quiet month for fire calls. At their October Roast Beef Dinner they did well, 615 meals.

Planning Board:

No report.

Construction/Code Enforcement:

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

During the month of October, a total of 35 inspections were done, and the following permits were issued:

- 4 Alterations
- 0 Demos
- 0 New
- 1 Addition
- 2 Zoning Permits
- 2 CO Inspections / Resales
- Total of 9

The following code enforcement issues were notated:

- 65 Clarks Landing Road – abated (bamboo removed)
- 291 Old New York Road – abated – high grass
- 233 Main Street – trash, debris & high grass – will issue summons – nothing done

Land Use:

Mayor Giberson reported that she met with the professors from Stockton University to discuss the property located at 400 English Creek Road. She will report when she hears back from them.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CLOSE TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter from Theresa Prendergast, Tax Administrator of the Atlantic County Board of Taxation Regarding Order of Revaluation – dated October 31, 2025

It was decided that the City will request a one year extension. Attorney Kaufmann will work with Tax Assessor Bill Johnson on the extension request.

- Email from Jerry DelRosso, Atlantic County Administrator, Regarding Proposed 2026 Budget for the Central Municipal Court – dated November 10, 2025

Mayor Giberson explained that the costs for the City will remain the same as the 2025 costs. This remains a savings to the City.

- Letter from Dennis Levinson, Atlantic County Executive, Regarding Feasibility Study for Centralized Fire/EMS Dispatch and a 9-1-1 Call Center Presentation Scheduled for Monday, December 1, 2025 – dated November 12, 2025

Mayor Giberson will be attending the meeting. John Yochim explained what the County is proposing and asked for Council's support for this initiative.

RESOLUTIONS:

81-2025 Transfer Resolution

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adopt Resolution 81-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

82-2025 Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with Atlantic County for use of Highway Digital Message Boards and Electronic Speed Feedback Signs

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 82-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

83-2025 Granting Raffle License to Port Republic Parent Teacher Society, a NJ Nonprofit Corporation

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 83-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES – 1ST READING/INTRODUCTION:

None

ORDINANCES – 2nd READING/ADOPTION:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Redevelopment Plan – 400 English Creek Road

There is nothing new to report at this time. This will need to be revisited in the beginning of 2026.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Tree Lighting Event – Thursday, December 4th at 6:00 pm
- City Holiday Party – Tuesday, December 9th Following City Council Meeting
- Lease of a Portion of Municipally Owned Property Located at Wrangleboro Road and Riverside Drive (Block 38, Lots 1 & 2)

84-2025 Awarding Lease of a Portion of Municipally-Owned Property Located at Wrangleboro Road and Riverside Drive (Block 38, Lots 1 & 2) to Crown Atlantic Company, LLC for Use as a Telecommunications Site

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adopt Resolution 84-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

MAYOR'S REPORT/PROCLAMATIONS:

- Proclamation Honoring Eagle Scout Christopher David Ropiecki

Mayor Giberson presented Eagle Scout Christopher David Ropiecki with his proclamation. Council congratulated him on his achievement.

Mayor Giberson additionally reported the following:

- The Fall Fest went incredibly well. There were about 300 people in attendance.
- Trick-or-Treat also went well.
- The electric has been restored to the athletic fund shed outside of City Hall.
- They are still working on the 250th celebration next year. We will celebrate this at our Community Day which will be on June 20, 2026. The next planning meeting will be in January and anyone who would like to help is welcome to attend.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

John Yochim, 456 Chestnut Neck Road, asked the status of the code enforcement complaint against 65 Clarks Landing Road. Clerk Blevin will follow up with Code Enforcement Officer Naticchione on the status.

CLOSE TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ES 11-2025 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding:

1. Employee Request for Temporary Pay Adjustment

Attorney Kaufmann informed the public that at the close of executive session there is a possibility that official action may be taken.

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution ES 11-2025.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to close executive session.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

On the motion of Councilmember Ropiecki, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adopt Resolution 85-2025, Approval of Temporary Compensation Adjustment.

YES: Allgeyer, Crawford, Giberson, Hawn, Riegel, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Councilmember Turner questioned the status of the ongoing condition of 233 Main Street. Clerk Blevin will follow up with Code Enforcement Officer Naticchione.

Councilmember Turner would like to revisit the possibility of a liquor license within town. Attorney Kaufmann will email the steps that would need to be taken to move forward to Mayor and Council.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy M. Blevin, RMC
Municipal Clerk