

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 9, 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: 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 forth the time, date, and location of this meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER 18, 2025, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to approve the November 18, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes.

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

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER 18, 2025, CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES:

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Hawn and carried to approve the November 18, 2025, City Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

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

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO APPROVE DECEMBER 2025 BILL LIST:

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

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

NO:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

Scott Winneberger reported that we are still having issues with the park areas being torn up. Reports have been made and the New Jersey State Police are aware. He is still working to have additional cameras placed. He priced out solar, but it is not a feasible option. He is still waiting for a response from Atlantic City Electric. He did meet with an electrician, who is going to give quotes to meter both Fireman's Pond and Park Avenue near the new playground.

He also reported that he attended a meeting held by Atlantic County regarding County Dispatch. They have a full report on their website that Scott reviewed. He does not feel they have a full plan yet.

Administrative/Personnel:

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

The Municipal Clerk's report for November 2025 showed a total amount received of \$6,173.62.

The Tax Collector's report for November 2025 showed a total amount received of \$969,224.60.

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

Councilmember Ropiecki reported that everything is running smoothly despite being short staffed. He thanked Clerk Blevin. In observance of the Christmas holiday, municipal employees will be off Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. In observance of New Year's holiday, municipal employees will be off on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Public Works:

Councilmember Allgeyer reported that Public Works is running smoothly. They should have the new compactor soon.

Recreation:

Councilmember Turner reported that the Tree Lighting Event on December 4th was awesome.

Fire and Ambulance:

Councilmember Hawn reported that everything is good at the Fire Company. The Fire Company will be bringing Santa around town on Sunday, December 14th starting at noon.

Planning Board:

No report.

Construction/Code Enforcement:

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

During the month of November, a total of 8 inspections were done, and the following permits were issued:

- 2 Alterations
- 1 Demo (garage)
- 0 New
- 0 Additions
- 0 Zoning Permits
- 1 CO Inspection / Resale
- Total of 4

The following code enforcement issues were noted:

- 177 Chestnut Neck Road – reinspection / final notice sent

Land Use:

Council President Giberson reported that we will need to start working in 2026 to try to get some revenue into the City.

School Finance Committee:

Councilmember Ropiecki reported that he spoke with Todd D'Anna and Joy Hooper and they are looking to get together sometime in January 2026.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

Council President Giberson thanked everyone for attending and for all their hard work and volunteerism throughout the year.

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 Matthew DeNafo, President of Atlantic County Utilities Authority, Regarding 2026 Rates and Fees – dated November 21, 2025

Acknowledged

- Email from Resident Erin Daniels Regarding Dangerous Road Conditions – dated December 4, 2025

Scott Winneberger stated that complaints have been made to the State Police, as well as the Station Commander himself, regarding speeding issues on Main Street. He urged residents to continue making reports to the State Police. He suggested emails can be sent to the City too so that he can follow up on his end.

- Memorandum from James Rutala, Rutala Associates, Regarding Grant Opportunity – FY2026 Local Recreation Improvement Grant (*deadline: February 13, 2026*) – dated December 3, 2025

Mayor Giberson explained that there has been continuing efforts to work on the park area. Bill Smallwood with the Port Republic Athletic Fund has been working very hard and wants to install additional items utilizing funds from the race, but the City may be needed to help with mulch and possible labor. The new items would be geared more for the 2-5 year old range.

RESOLUTIONS:

86-2025 Final Work Change Order #1 (Final) – Reconstruction of Tennis, Pickleball and Basketball Courts at Park Avenue

On the motion of Councilmember Hawn, seconded by Councilmember Crawford and carried to adopt Resolution 86-2025.

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 has not been much movement on this. We will need to work on this in the coming year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2026 Reorganization Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6th at 6:00 pm, followed by Regular City Council Meeting

MAYOR'S REPORT/PROCLAMATIONS:

- Mayor Giberson thanked everyone who helped out with the Annual Tree Lighting Event on December 4th. Santa and Mrs. Claus were great. The cookies were amazing. Clerk Blevin and retired Clerk Campellone helped serve the public. The school's participation has made such a huge improvement to the event. The new band played as well and it was wonderful.

- Mayor Giberson presented Jesse Connor with the 2025 Volunteers of the Year Award for her and her husband Jack.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the issue of speeding in Port Republic. The public as well as Mayor and Council shared in their displeasure of the New Jersey State Police's patrolling. It was explained how important it is for residents to call and make complaints.

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 12-2025 Authorization to Enter into Executive Session Regarding:

1. Employee Matter

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Riegel and carried to adopt Resolution ES 12-2025.

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:

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Councilmember Crawford, seconded by Councilmember Riegel and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy M. Blevin, RMC
Municipal Clerk