

May 11, 2020

Executive Session – None.

Regular Meeting-

The regular meeting of the City of Port Jervis Common Council was held via Zoom teleconference from the Mayor's home, Port Jervis, New York on Monday May 11th, 2020 at 7:15 p.m.

Public Hearing - None

Attendance- All members of the Common Council were present on the Zoom Teleconference. Also present was the City Clerk Treasurer Robin Waizenegger. The Teleconference was live on the Mayor's Facebook page and is also set for re-broadcast on Access 23.

Below is the transcript of the proceedings as necessary per statute regarding teleconferenced meetings where the public cannot be present:

Kelly Decker:

7:15, Monday, May 11, 2020. I'll call the regular meeting of the common council to order, if you can please stand for the pledge. I have a flag back here. I pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

Timothy Simmons:

God bless America.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. Approval of the Minutes of the April 27, 2020, meets.

Robin Waizenegger:

Introductions please.

Kelly Decker:

Robin, were you able to get that all? Because I see the number just popped up again.

Robin Waizenegger:

No, I was not.

Robin Waizenegger:

Due to some technical difficulties. We'll have to repeat the introductions.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. Sorry. So, I saw her pop back up there. Okay. So, Kelly Decker, Mayor of the City of Port Jervis.

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Lisa Randazzo:

Lisa Randazzo, Councilwoman-at-Large.

Regis Foster:

Regis Foster, First Ward Councilman.

Kelly Decker:

Dominic?

Dominic Santini:

Dominic Santini.

Kelly Decker:

Chandler?

Chandler Campbell:

Chandler Campbell, Second Ward Council.

Kelly Decker:

Maria?

Maria Mann:

Maria Mann, Second Ward Council.

Kelly Decker:

Gerry.

Gerald Oney:

Gerald Oney, Third Ward Councilman.

Kelly Decker:

Stan?

Stanley Siegel:

Stan Siegel, Fourth Ward Council.

Kelly Decker:

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My mistake, I'm just looking at this. Kristin?

Kristin Trovei:

Kristin Trovei, Third Ward Council.

Kelly Decker:

Tim?

Timothy Simmons:

Tim Simmons, Fourth Ward Council.

Kelly Decker:

Robin, it shouldn't matter that we went out of order, right?

Robin Waizenegger:

No.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. All right. Again, approval of the minutes of the April 27, 2020, meeting. What's your pleasure?

Gerald Oney:

So, moved.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Oney.

Stanley Siegel:

I'll second.

Kelly Decker:

Second, Mr. Siegel. Discussion?

Maria Mann:

I had discussion.

Kelly Decker:

Yes.

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Maria Mann:

I was just wondering how the minutes are actually being recorded because, when I read them, I saw some wording in there that I don't even think it's part of the English dictionary.

Kelly Decker:

Robin, can you answer that? Can you do that?

Robin Waizenegger:

Yes, the physical recording is being submitted to Rev.com, which is a transcription software service, and then they are doing the rough draft. I went through, I made a bunch of minor corrections where the recording is not clear enough or is unable to pick up what was being said. There was a lot of spaces where there was crosstalk and it couldn't discern. So, I have to physically listen to the whole recording and then I edit it. I may or may not have missed a word, but that is what was spoken on the tape.

Maria Mann:

Okay.

Kelly Decker:

You okay with that?

Maria Mann:

That answers my question. Yes.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. Bills, Ms. Trovei.

Kristin Trovei:

From the General Fund, \$82,388.93. From the Water Fund \$7,016.54. From the Sewer Fund \$618.85. From the Capital Fund, \$20,168. From Trust & Agency, \$48,250.95, for a total of \$158,443.27. Some of the larger items from the General Water and the Sewer Fund, Asphalt \$6,158.17, Orange County Sanitary Landfill \$24,387.92, Cargill for de-icer \$11,452.62. From the Capital Fund, Storage In Motion, the refrigerated trailer, \$17,789 and Orange County Mason Supply for the new handicap ramp, \$1,951. Motion for bills.

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Kelly Decker:

And then motion, motion by Ms. Trovei. Do I have a second by Gerry at all?

Gerald Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you, Mr. Oney. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Item number one. Approval requests. Hello?

Kristin Trovei:

We lost Dominic.

Kelly Decker:

Oh, okay. Poor Dominic, it'll pop up as soon as he comes on. So also, for the general public the council all has all these items, they've been emailed everything. So, if he pops back up, he'll know what we're talking about.

Kelly Decker:

The first item is approval requests for the Farmer's Market on June 6th through October 3rd. What's your pleasure?

Lisa Randazzo:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Randazzo. Do I have a second?

Regis Foster:

Second.

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Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Foster. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Timothy Simmons:

Mayor, just a minute, who, I'm sure someone's going to have to kind of monitor what they're doing while it's an operation. Is that correct?

Kelly Decker:

Yeah. So, so there are rules put in place. As you saw in New York State's guidelines, there's a Manager that's hired by Orange County. They are the ones that are responsible to follow the rules, if they have an issue, they contact the police department.

Timothy Simmons:

Okay, so there will be someone on site to oversee.

Kelly Decker:

Just like Sarah's been there the whole time for the last, what three or four years? Sarah's going to continue, but then they have a new Manager coming in. Actually, he is a farmer.

Stanley Siegel:

All right.

Lisa Randazzo:

There was, the names were noted in the letter, you received via email. There was the letter of the new person coming on.

Timothy Simmons:

Oh okay, that's what that name was. All right, I didn't, okay.

Kelly Decker:

Sorry we lost you, but we didn't really go anywhere. We just in discussion of the Farmer's Market. Do you have any discussion on that?

Dominic Santini:

No.

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Kelly Decker:

Okay. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you. Okay.

Approval to request the supplemental agreement for CHA engineering bridge project. What's your pleasure?

Gerald Oney:

So move.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Mr. Oney. Do I have a second?

Lisa Randazzo:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Seconded by Ms. Randazzo. Discussion.

Stanley Siegel:

So what's that? is that for additional things they found?

Kelly Decker:

So, this is, I think this is part of the engineering and inspection work that goes on, that we approved a while ago, the whole piece, but these are each individual agreements. This is number six.

Stanley Seigel:

Okay. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Any other further discussion?

Gerald Oney:

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We're almost to the end Mayor, we're almost to the end.

Kelly Decker:

Although I did send a nasty email about the prison type fencing today. Because I finally got to see it and it looks horrendous. I said, you might as well just put razor blades, razor wire on the top of it and leave it. It looks terrible.

Stanley Siegel:

Well, since we're on the subject. We've had numerous complaints about, that they put in signage in people's yards, and the people are not happy with that. And I don't think that we should infringe on people where we can put them back where they used to be closer to the curb. I know it requires specific access.

Kelly Decker:

I don't disagree with you. The problem is, is that even though we look at it as East Main Street and Kingston Avenue it is actually U.S. Route 6 and U.S. Route 209 and it has to follow all New York State and Federal Guidelines, DOT Guidelines. So, when they're installing it, they have to put it out of the way were a tractor trailer, won't run into it or it doesn't get hit. And there are, there is a variance on each side and that's where they are putting that variance. Not to say that it doesn't have to stay that way. I'm just saying that that's where they have to put it.

Stanley Siegel:

Okay. So those people that have a concern can ask for remediation?

Kelly Decker:

That's correct.

Stanley Siegel:

Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

All right. Any other discussion? Okay. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried. Thank you.

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Kelly Decker:

Item number three. Approval requests for the Sewer Grant update. This is, Mr. Farr has to be given authorization to do the update of, as we progress through the sewer lines, he would do that with New York. I don't know what S.E.F.C. stands for, but it's apparently the people who are in charge of the Grant and the sewer. Your pleasure?

Gerald Oney:

I'll make a motion there.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Oney. Do I have a second?

Kristin Trovei:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Seconded by Ms. Trovei. Discussion.

Stanley Siegel:

So, there's no funding with this? It's just a matter of he has to do the reports to keep up?

Kelly Decker:

Yeah. This is just a report.

Stanley Siegel:

Thank you.

Timothy Simmons:

Mayor, do we have a tentative start date for the sewer work?

Kelly Decker:

I think they have to be trained May 26, it said, and four days of training I believe is what it said? The start would be right after that.

Timothy Simmons:

Okay.

Kelly Decker:

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So like around May, well, May 30th is a Saturday. So, I'm guessing probably what is it? June 1st?

Timothy Simmons:

First or second.

Kelly Decker:

All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Kelly Decker:

Item number four. Approval for two part time employees for the DEC Mandated Sewer Relining Project.
Your pleasure?

Lisa Randazzo:

I'll make a motion.

Kelly Decker:

Motion by Ms. Randazzo.

Gerald Oney:

Second.

Kelly Decker:

Second by Mr. Oney. Discussion.

Regis Foster:

So they would start the 26th? Is that the idea?

Kelly Decker:

Yeah, they would start the 26th when they begin the training.

Lisa Randazzo:

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Mayor, if we could just, for the public, just so that everyone understands that these two part time staff, they are temporary staff members, and the purpose of them is to do the sewer relining. So be trained and working alongside our regular DPW members. But it was an item that was previously authorized underneath the sewer relining project.

Kelly Decker:

Thank you.

Stanley Siegel:

And they'll work within the budget amount of money that we have for that project? The Grant money?

Kelly Decker:

Absolutely.

Lisa Randazzo:

I feel like the maximum hours were noted in the correspondence we received to be 1040 hours in total.

Stanley Siegel:

Yeah, or else they wouldn't be part of time. That's all that is.

Timothy Simmons:

Right. Now do we have that Grant money in hand or is it in fact coming?

Kelly Decker:

Robin, you want to explain how that works?

Robin Waizenegger:

This is a patchwork of a couple of Grants. We have already received an advance of \$173,500. And the rest will come as we go through the work and submit the claims.

Timothy Simmons:

Okay. There's no, there's no possibility that as we progress that they can turn around and say, Oh gee, sorry. You're not getting anymore?

Kelly Decker:

No, we've signed the contracts already with them.

Timothy Simmons:

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Okay, all right. I just, in these times you don't know what's what.

Kelly Decker:

Yes.

Timothy Simmons:

Thank you.

Kristin Trovei:

Okay. Any other thoughts about the finances? Or questions about how the Grant will be paid out? The only reason why we wouldn't get the money is if we don't complete it by the deadline and information in case people forgot. If we don't complete it by the end of the year, we would have to pay back all of the money, which would be about \$750,000 or half of it. This is DEC mandated. And if we don't complete it, we can get fines, which can be daily, which I don't know what they are, but with the DEC can be a couple hundred dollars a day to a couple thousand dollars a day. That's a lot of money that we would end up owing if we don't get it completed by the deadline and the deadline has not been extended.

Kelly Decker:

Yeah. They said they would not extend the deadline.

Stanley Siegel:

But it's not anticipated that we could get it done with by the end of the year is it?

Kelly Decker:

We're going to get done everything that includes the Grant. Stanley:

Okay. Okay.

Kelly Decker:

Yeah. We're not going to get the whole sewer lining thing done, no. What's to be done is for the Grant.

Gerald Oney:

There's a lot more work after that, but the grant, but the meaning is.

Stanley Siegel:

Well I'm just worried about the 173,000 or whatever we have there. The 750. I don't want to lose any of that.

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Kelly Decker:

Right. Move to discussion. All in favor? I'm sorry.

Maria Mann:

These two new hires, are they required to have a particular background or like what their experience may be? I know like say you were to hire a truck driver. You need somebody that has a CDL. I would imagine that they would have to have a certain line of experience and?

Kelly Decker:

Don't hold me to this, but I believe Jack told me that they were former retired employees that are going to do this job that are, that know the system.

Maria Mann:

Okay.

Kelly Decker:

Any other, all in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Item number five. Chief Worden sent you all a letter and he's looking for dispatchers. Now understand that the dispatchers are part of our, of the Police Department, but they are on their own line item. They were part timers. And they're really people that are filling in where he needs, rather than having a Sergeant that we're paying \$150,000 plus benefits to sitting on the desk. We have a dispatcher sitting on the desk. This falls well within the budget. And so, he's making the request for two part-timers right now. I think he has like five leads. So, what's your pleasure?

Regis Foster:

I'll move.

Kelly Decker:

I have a motion by Mr. Foster. Do I have a second?

Stanley Siegel:

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Second.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Siegel. Okay. Discussion.

Chandler Campbell:

Yeah. I just have a question.

Kelly Decker:

Sure.

Chandler Campbell:

So why don't, I mean, just looking at like saving money, why do we not have the County do it and like a lot of places in Orange County?

Kelly Decker:

Okay. So when we go back to our Police, when we go back to the Police meeting and we Zoom that in June, ask the Chief, because I don't want to misspeak here, but I think he's done it like three or four times for different Council people to explain the situation difference between Cities and Towns and Villages. And we have, obviously we have walk in traffic in the city. So that's the heart of it by having dispatchers take the Sergeant off the desk. So, you have a supervisor on the road, but the reason that we don't go and dispatch through the County, he can give you all the fine specifics of that.

Chandler Campbell:

Okay. I'll reach out to him, thank you.

Kelly Decker:

Okay, sure. Any others? All in favor?

Timothy Simmons:

I'm sorry. These are just replacing people that are going to be leaving for other reasons?

Kelly Decker:

They've already left actually. I think four or five of them have already left.

Timothy Simmons:

Right, okay. Very good.

Kelly Decker:

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All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried.

Kelly Decker:

Item number six. We have had an offer on four properties. I didn't send this to you in the mail, about those are in the email about those properties. What's your pleasure? Anybody want to move on them? Or?

Stanley Siegel:

I asked some questions of some other people in the business and I'm not sure there's a benefit for us to do that. Could somebody explain what the benefit could be? Robin?

Kelly Decker:

Well you're going to get that cash right up front, that offer of cash.

Stanley Siegel:

But then we're responsible for the taxes and we're responsible for an upkeep. We're responsible for a lot of things for the 1% a month we get. So, I'm wondering if it's a financial good thing to do?

Kelly Decker:

Robin? Do you want to?

Robin Waizenegger:

No, this offer is actually to purchase the liens. It is not to purchase the property is to purchase the liens. So therefore the only advantage for us is cashflow. A disadvantage would be if the city had a specific interest in any one of the four properties. Typically I would not accept an offer at the redemption value. I would recommend if you do wish to sell the tax liens, to get the immediate cash flow, that you do so at a premium of an additional 1, 2 or 3%, but it's just a holding value. We right now we're putting out all the cash associated with the property but have no ownership interest. Because the ownership interest does not convey until the lien expires, which takes a period of two years.

Stanley Siegel:

So, what's the point? And I looked at all these properties and I was mistaken about the one that was sent, I thought it was the one that had burnt down and was for sale, but it's not. That property in

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Holbrook Street is somebody living in that building. Who's responsible for the taxes and the upkeep for that 36 Holbrook Street?

Robin Waizenegger:

The lien holder is responsible for the financial aspect of the property. In other words, we have to pay the taxes. We have to pay the water and sewer. But the property owner is still responsible for the maintenance at this point until such a time, as the lien runs two years and we would take ownership.

Maria Mann:

So then we have to hold onto it?

Kristin Trovei:

Or we can wait for the property to be redeemed. And it gets redeemed at a 1% interest. Yeah.

Stanley Siegel:

But we pay the taxes?

Robin Waizenegger:

Yes.

Kelly Decker:

But you're going to, either way, I can assure you, you would get that tax money back in the end either way, but you would have control over the one house that there have been issues with, it's a multifamily, the other ones, weren't worth the value. And I can tell you though, the last one, the reason we're having the planning board meeting on Tuesday is because Dunkin' Donuts needs to move forward so that one's going to clear itself right away. And we'll get that money back right away.

Timothy Simmons:

So that is? I'm sorry. That is the property at 291, property where Mad Dog Liquor was and Dunkin' Donuts is going to take that?

Kelly Decker:

Yeah.

Timothy Simmons:

So that is going to proceed?

Kelly Decker:

Yes.

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Stanley Siegel:

Oh, okay. All right. I thought they were.

Kelly Decker:

That's why we're having that meeting on Tuesday for the planning board.

Stanley Siegel:

Okay. All right. I wasn't sure because I know they'd gone through all the steps and then all of a sudden I saw 291 and I'm thinking, Whoa, wait a second. All right. Okay. That explains it.

So, if it's going to clear up right away, why are we getting involved in it? I still don't understand?

Kelly Decker:

We're already involved. They want to buy it from us so that they can make money off of it, right?

Kristin Trovei:

I'm not interested in selling the property right now for a number of reasons, but I think that if we were going to try to negotiate, that's something that we should probably do in an executive session, because I think negotiation falls under an executive session category. And it's not something that we should continuously be talking about in public FaceTime, but in now I'm not interested in moving forward, but this deal that they have put on the table.

Kelly Decker:

Now I will tell you, so I'm just going to jump really quick to the number eight corporation council. Since I'm going to set that meeting up and that'll be a special meeting next week. We could add this to that in executive session.

Stanley Siegel:

Yeah. I would like that because I still have a lot of questions.

Kelly Decker:

Okay. All right.

Stanley Siegel:

So we'll table that item.

Kelly Decker:

We'll table that item. We don't really have, there is no motion, so, okay.

Stanley Seigel:

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All right. Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

All right. Number seven.

Kelly Decker:

I need a motion to move our council meeting from Monday, May 25th, which is Memorial Day, to Tuesday, May 26th.

Stanley Siegel:

I'll move.

Kelly Decker:

I got Stanley. And who second? And Ms. Randazzo. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

So carried. Okay. A lot of explaining. I don't know if I, if you want me to explain it, I will. I have posted most of it up online, anyway. I am extending the Limited State of Emergency Declaration until June 15th so really for us, that's closing down this, basically the city buildings, the reason being is, in our meeting today, we are not making Friday as Phase One. We are not going to be entering it. So, the only ones that are going to enter Phase One is the Mohawk Valley, the Finger Lakes and the Southern Tier. They're the only ones, not even the North Country or any place like that.

Kelly Decker:

So we're looking at the possibility of us entering into Phase One, maybe the end of next week or the week after, no matter what each Phase is two weeks, you have to go 14 days through each Phase, the Third Phase, which would open up City Hall, like offices, like Exact isn't going to occur until probably I believe the beginning of July.

Kelly Decker:

So, I said, instead of going to July, I'll go to June 15th. I can rescind this order, if somehow, we make it to Phase Three quicker than that, but I'm putting that limited state of emergency, just so that we know what we're doing at least for the next month. Okay? And that doesn't need to be voted on. I just wanted to clarify, if you have any questions about, I mean, there's so much information. The state's finally starting to clear up the information with us, and the County is starting to get a clearer picture that we're attached to Rockland County and Westchester County. So, we're going to be slow in this process of Phase Movement, but we have some ideas. I talked to some of our department heads about some ideas

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of when the beginning stages start to open, how we can make it easier, at least on our downtown and Pike Street businesses. And I'll discuss them with you guys later.

Kelly Decker:

As far as number eight, I requested from you again at our last meeting, which was April 27th for Corporation Council. Of course, with me being sick, I wasn't able to set up a meeting. I will set up a meeting, a special meeting for next week.

Lisa Randazzo:

Is that eight or nine?

It's nine, it's a typo on the agenda.

It should be nine?

It's a typo on the agenda, it's number nine.

Kelly Decker:

Item number, oh, my mistake. Yes. It's item number nine. So according to C24 of our Charter, the Mayor must request Corporation Counsel. And after 30 days, if he doesn't request or she doesn't request a Corporation Counsel, the Council can go ahead and do it. Even if we don't come to a conclusion after our meeting, our May 26th meeting, which is the day after Memorial Day is 30 days, is actually the 30th day of my request. So, I'm not going to request for Corporation Counsel appointment tonight, but we will be discussing that obviously at our special meeting.

Timothy Simmons:

Mayor?

Kelly Decker:

Yes?

Timothy Simmons:

When we do the special meeting, we are going to, I believe we would invite the same principles that were present at the first meeting? Correct?

Kelly Decker:

I'm sorry. Say that again?

Timothy Simmons:

If we do a conference with the people we're going to interview, we would have the same three from each firm present. Correct?

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Kelly Decker:

I think it should just be the people that are going to be our Corporation Counsel.

Timothy Simmons:

Well, we would be hiring a firm so that we're comparing apples and apples.

Kelly Decker:

Okay.

Timothy Simmons:

You know?

Lisa Randazzo:

But we're not hiring a firm, you're actually hiring, you're naming the Corporation Counsel, so you can only name one person.

Timothy Simmons:

But those things.

Maria Mann:

Shouldn't be up to the firm to decide who they want to send? I'm just.

Timothy Simmons:

Correct.

Lisa Randazzo:

I think it should be up to the Mayor to make his appointment. Quite honestly.

Stanley Siegel:

But if we're hiring a firm, they can send whomever they want to send. That's the beauty of having three or four good attorneys to be able to come to our meetings. So, if we're going to hire a firm, we should let them decide.

Kelly Decker:

I'm just going to stop you there. I don't have a problem with sitting in our Zoom meeting with the firm. I don't have a problem with that at all. I made the recommendation. So after that, I would decide if it's a person or a firm, but I'll invite the firm. That's fine.

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Timothy Simmons:

Thank you.

Kelly Decker:

So I have a couple of notes here. I just want you to realize that actually the Fire Department, you may have just gotten an email from the Fire Department, or you're shortly going to get one from the Fire Department. If you're a Fire Department member, because this is an official announcement that all events for the month of May, June and July are canceled, altered in form or rescheduled. So let me clarify that. So obviously the yard sale was canceled. Memorial Day was canceled by the VFW and the Naval Ship. The next thing is Art in the Park that has been canceled. It is not being rescheduled. Soap Box Derby, they are meeting right now. I have discussed some options with them, they are very limited options. There's no pomp and circumstance, there's no crowds, if they are moving forward to race, it's going to be very limited and very controlled, but I'll let you know, as that comes out.

Kelly Decker:

July is our Dinner Along the Delaware it's canceled. It's not being redone over. Although we paid for half of the fireworks, which is nonrefundable. So we have moved the fireworks to the Friday before Labor Day. So, the reason we're not going to do it on July 4th is because it attracts a lot of crowds Downtown and in the Plaza. And we have to avoid all crowds. So the fireworks are moved to Friday before Labor Day. The last one is the Parade. The Parade is totally in control of the Fire Department. However, following all the rules that have been put in place, as far as gathering, it could be something as simple as scaling back the Parade, which I think is going to be done anyway, to moving it to the beginning of August, to canceling, depending on how the Fire Chiefs feel.

Stanley Siegel:

We just received a letter that it's canceled.

Kelly Decker:

Oh, I see, I didn't know what they were recommending. So, then they're going to recommend that it's canceled. Is that true?

Stanley Siegel:

Yeah. I'm not allowed to make an announcement, but I can tell you I received a letter and it said it's been canceled.

Kelly Decker:

No, no. I knew you were getting a letter because I sent to the Chiefs that I was going to make this announcement on the modifications or cancellations, but it's really up to them. That'll be addressed more than shortly. Beginning June 1st, a step forward, we're actually going to do a trial run on Tuesday for Planning Board because, and this is posted already on the Facebook, on my Facebook, I'm sorry, it'll be posted tomorrow on Facebook. It's posted on the website now. The Zoom meetings for the Planning Board is open to everyone in the public. Everyone will be muted except for the Board Members.

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Kelly Decker:

And when there's public comment, you will be un-muted, if you have public comments. I'll kind of drive the meeting, but it's still run by Tom. The reason they're doing it is because they need to have the Public Hearing on Dunkin' Donuts. Because as soon as we enter into Phase One, they can start their construction of tearing that building down and rebuilding, and it plus gives us a trial run so that in June, June 1st you will all run your meetings and hopefully it only be one or two months. And by Zoom, I can set them up.

I'll probably try to be to every single one of them to help you run them, but you could sign on and I'm going to give you the control authority to be on, and then you can run the meeting. And again, it'll be an open meeting, so you, I would post it. I'll post it. You can post it. And that way people get Zoom, they can come on. And you, what I just suggest like they've done in other meetings, is that you mute everybody except for when it's time for public comments and you can unmute the person and speaking to that, and that's what we're going to do starting our next Common Council meeting on Tuesday, May 26th.

There's two ways to make public comments. You can either bring a signed letter to City Hall prior to 4:00 PM on Monday. It must be signed in and noted that it's you, or you can come onto the Zoom meeting, you'll get your, the number in the pass, actually, I probably won't do the password anymore for the Council Meetings. It'll just be the Zoom meeting. We'll send a queue, you will not come on like you were on right now until, we'll do the Pledge of Allegiance. And then we'll do public comment. I'll bring one person on at a time to make their public comment. And as soon as they're done or after five minutes, there'll be pushed off the meeting and then they can watch from the live feed. I think that covers everything.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Siegel, you have a verified letter of somebody that would like to make a comment.

Stanley Siegel:

Yes. And I'd like to do it today because this individual does not have access to Zoom. He doesn't have the ability to use Zoom. So it's the only way he could do it. He dropped it off at my house, we had a conversation, I verified the fact that it was him, okay?

Kelly Decker:

Just hold on a second. I'm going to ask everybody to mute here. We're getting a lot of feedback. So just for Mr. Siegel if we could all mute.

Stanley Siegel:

Okay, are we ready?

Kelly Decker:

Go ahead and do it.

May 11, 2020

Stanley Siegel:

Okay, this is addressed to us, it's from Peter Grech. My attempts to save lives during this pandemic are being thwarted by elected officials who shamelessly are playing politics. What was an unedited text of a letter that I wanted to read at the last remote meeting for my city's council, I find it extremely disappointing and unconscionable that my message was blocked. To my fellow Port Jervis residents

anyone with basic understanding of toxic substances and human physiology should realize that injecting a disinfectant to cure COVID-19 is insane and dangerous. Taking household chemicals can easily kill you. This information comes directly from a scientist from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, given that the disinfectant idea was publicly contemplated by President Trump in a sarcastic manner. One should give further ideas uttered by him as potentially harmful, potentially fatal even. Never employ crazy remedy theories that are not scientifically vetted. Please be smart and be safe. Peter Grech. I will repeat that was by Peter Grech. Not by anybody else. And thank you. You're muted.

Kelly Decker:

All right. So.

Kelly Decker:

Does anybody else have any other information that they would like to? Okay, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn?

Regis Foster:

So moved.

Stanley Siegel:

So moved.

Kelly Decker:

Mr. Foster's. Second by Mr. Siegel. Discussion. All in favor?

Group:

Aye.

Kelly Decker:

Opposed? *Silence* So carried, thank you very much.

Group:

Stay safe.

Group:

May 11, 2020

Thank you

Meeting Adjourned at 7:51 pm

Next Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 6:30 pm Executive Session and 7:15 pm Regular Meeting on Tuesday May 26th, 2020 subject to change based on the conditions under Emergency order related to the COVID 19 Outbreak.

Robin Waizenegger
City Clerk Treasurer