

CITY OF PORT REPUBLIC
6:30 P.M. SEPTEMBER 10, 2024
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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, Doris Bugdon, Roger Giberson, Eugene Hawn, Jeffrey Ropiecki, Michael Turner

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Donna Riegel

MAYOR: Monica Giberson

MUNICIPAL CLERK: Brandy M. Blevin, RMC

ATTORNEY: William Kaufmann, Esq.

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

MOTION TO APPROVE AUGUST 13, 2024, CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Ropiecki and carried to approve the August 13, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes.

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN: Allgeyer

MOTION TO APPROVE AUGUST 13, 2024, CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES:

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Riegel and carried to approve the August 13, 2024, City Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

YES: Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN: Allgeyer

MOTION TO APPROVE SEPTEMBER 2024 BILL LIST:

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Ropiecki and carried to approve the September 2024 Bill List.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

MOTION TO PAY ALL SIGNED BILLS:

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

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Emergency Management:

No report

Administrative/Personnel:

Council President Giberson reported that Council received monthly reports from the Municipal Clerk and Tax Collector.

The Municipal Clerk's report for August 2024 showed a total amount received of \$8,042.93.

The Tax Collector's August 2024 report showed a total amount received of \$979,046.44.

Council President Giberson added that all of the City employees are doing a great job.

Public Works:

Councilmember Allgeyer reported that the department is working on ordering a few more loads of stone to be placed around the park area. They would also like to order more sand for the beach. Discussion ensued about whether they should order the sand now or wait until next year. There were concerns that the sand may wash away with storms over the winter season. It was decided that the sand should be ordered next year.

Recreation:

Councilmember Bugdon reported that the 2024 beach season ended on Labor Day. There were no days this season where the beach had to be closed due to testing results. She was very happy with the recreation staff, and they had a great season overall.

Fire and Ambulance:

Councilmember Hawn reported that they had one call last month and it has been quiet.

Planning Board:

No report

Construction/Code Enforcement:

No report supplied. Council President Giberson stated that the Construction Official is doing a good job, and everyone seems happy.

Senior Services:

Councilmember Bugdon reported that she had two calls requesting loans of equipment. A resident has also volunteered to help seniors throughout town. Atlantic County has a new program called the Fix It Program. She is awaiting more information so she can share it with others.

Land Use:

Council President Giberson reported that the redevelopment plan for 400 English Creek Road was advertised. We have not received any inquiries yet, but the document is available online.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

Bob Haviland, 316 English Creek Road, spoke to Mayor and Council regarding the condition of 233 Main Street. Council President Giberson stated that they would forward the complaint onto the Code Enforcement Officer to handle.

John Yochim, 462 Chestnut Neck Road, questioned when the County would be cutting the grass on their roadways throughout town. Mayor Giberson said that she would contact the County.

CLOSE TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter from County Executive Dennis Levinson Regarding the Central Municipal Court

Mayor and Council agreed that the third model presented in the letter would be their preferred choice. Clerk Blevin will draft a letter in response accordingly.

RESOLUTIONS:

83-2024 Adding Depository Funds - 2024

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 83-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN: Ropiecki

84-2024 Resolution Opposing the Proposed “Protecting Against Climate Threat (PACT)/Resilient Environments and Landscape (REAL)” Rules

On the motion of Councilmember Ropiecki, seconded of Councilmember Turner and carried to adopt Resolution 84-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

85-2024 Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with Atlantic County Utilities Authority for Roll-Off Container Service

On the motion of Councilmember Allgeyer, seconded of Councilmember Bugdon and carried to adopt Resolution 85-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

86-2024 Resolution of the City of Port Republic, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, to Cancel 2024 Taxes and Refund Payment Made

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 86-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN: Turner

87-2024 Establishing Bid Threshold and Authorizing Purchases, Contracts and Agreements not Exceeding the Local Public Contracts Law Bid Threshold without Public Advertisement

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 87-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES – 1ST READING/INTRODUCTION:

06-2024 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 10-2005, as Codified in Chapter 201, Recreation Areas and Parks, Article I, Recreational Area, §201-4, Recreation Facility Fees

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded of Councilmember Bugdon and carried to introduce Ordinance 06-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

07-2024 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 160, Land Use, and Chapter 241, Stormwater Management in Pinelands Area, of the Code of the City of Port Republic, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey

On the motion of Councilmember Turner, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to introduce Ordinance 07-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

ORDINANCES – 2nd READING/ADOPTION:

05-2024 Amending Ordinance #04-2024 to Correct Typographical Errors

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded by Councilmember Turner and carried to open for public hearing.

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

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Turner and carried to adopt Ordinance 05-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Installation of New Stormwater Outfall Pipe at Park Avenue – bids opened September 5, 2024

Council decided that being that the bids came in over budget, they will need to reject all bids at the next City Council Meeting and will try to rebid the project next year with a bigger budget.

- The Reconstruction of the Tennis, Pickleball and Basketball Courts at Park Avenue – bids opened September 5, 2024

The bids for the project came in over budget. There is CDBG funding available, and the bid can be revised and rebid. Clerk Blevin will contact Engineer Doran to discuss rebidding the project with the included language and forms to utilize CDBG funding and taking some items out.

88-2024 Rejecting all Bids Received on Contract to Reconstruct Park Avenue Tennis & Basketball Courts and Authorizing City Clerk to Readvertise for Bids

On the motion of Councilmember Bugdon, seconded of Councilmember Allgeyer and carried to adopt Resolution 88-2024.

YES: Allgeyer, Bugdon, Giberson, Hawn, Ropiecki, Turner

NO:

ABSENT: Riegel

ABSTAIN:

NEW BUSINESS:

- N/A

MAYORS REPORT/PROCLAMTIONS:

Mayor Giberson reported:

- There are still two openings for choice students at Port School.
- Sunday, September 15th will be the Duct Tape Boat Regatta. The races will begin at 1:30 pm. It is not too late to register.
- Fall Fest will be on Saturday, October 26th. There will be a parade, food and a movie show to end the evening.

OPEN TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

John Yochim, 462 Chestnut Neck Road, shared that when his wife was trying to obtain insurance on his mother-in-law's house they were told they had to get flood insurance since the line is to the Parkway now.

CLOSE TO PUBLIC PORTION:

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ES 9-2024 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 the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy M. Blevin, RMC
Municipal Clerk