

January 29, 2024

City Council

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Proceedings by Authority

State of New York

City of Jamestown

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City Council Chambers

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Jamestown, New York was held on Monday, January 29, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council President Dolce, Councilman Sheldon, Councilwoman Brackman, Councilman Paterniti, Councilman Reynolds, Councilman Faulkner, Councilman Bonfiglio, Councilman Daversa, Councilman Russell

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Kimberly A. Ecklund, City Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer Williams, Corporation Counsel Elliot Raimondo, Comptroller Ericka Thomas, Director of Public Works and Acting Director of Parks Recreation and Conservation Mark Roetzer, Police Chief/Director of Public Safety Timothy Jackson, Deputy Fire Chief Matt Coon, Director of Development Crystal Surdyk, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Joseph Calimeri, Administration Assistant to the Mayor Ashlan Davis

Council President Anthony Dolce called the meeting to order, led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation.

Councilman Reynolds moved to approve the December 18, 2023 voting session minutes, January 1, 2024 Recessed Meeting and January 1, 2024 Inaugural Meeting.

### **MESSAGES FROM THE MAYOR**

202401B00.01

Mayor Ecklund welcomed five (5) new employees to the City of Jamestown in January, 2024 including; Ericka Thomas (Comptroller), Joseph Calimeri and Ashlan Davis (Mayor's Office), Jordan Berg (DPW Building Maintenance), and Benjamin Whittaker (Parks Department)

Additionally, two (2) employees retired after many dedicated years of city service; Robert Samuelson (Police Captain), and Lisa Volpe (Assessor).

January 29, 2024

202401B00.02

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City, I do hereby nominate:

Ralph Wallace  
26 Harris Avenue  
Jamestown, NY 14701

to be appointed a member of the Board of Public Utilities in and for the City of Jamestown, New York.

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2027.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

202401B00.03

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City, I do hereby nominate:

Shuaib Bhamji  
1235 N. Main Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701

to be appointed a member of the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Commission in and for the City of Jamestown, New York.

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2028.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

January 29, 2024

202401B00.04

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City, I do hereby nominate:

Michael D. Laurin  
469 Camp Street  
Jamestown, New York 14701

to be appointed as Chair of the Planning Commission in and for the City of Jamestown, New York to fill the unexpired term of John I. LaMancuso, resigned.

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2027.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

202401B00.05

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City, I do hereby nominate:

Michael D. Laurin  
51 Durant Ave.  
Jamestown, New York 14701

to be re-appointed as the Planning Commission member of the Jamestown Urban Renewal Agency in and for the City of Jamestown, New York.

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2027.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

January 29, 2024

202401B00.06

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City, I do hereby nominate:

Peter Miraglia  
29 Gwendolyn Avenue  
Jamestown, New York 14701

to be appointed a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals in and for the City of Jamestown, New York.

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2026.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

202401B00.07

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City and Article 3, Section 11-c of the Domestic Relations Law, I do hereby nominate:

Paul D. Whitford  
58 Harris Ave.  
Jamestown, New York 14701

to be re-appointed a marriage officer in and for the City of Jamestown, New York,

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2027.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

January 29, 2024

202401B00.08

Council Members:

In pursuance of the authority vested in me by the Charter of said City and Article 3, Section 11-c of the Domestic Relations Law, I do hereby nominate:

Joseph Calimeri  
44 Livingston Avenue  
Jamestown, New York 14701

to be appointed a marriage officer in and for the City of Jamestown, New York,

The term for which said appointment is to be made will expire  
December 31, 2027.

Dated: January 29, 2024

Kimberly A. Ecklund  
Mayor of the City of Jamestown, New York

Councilman Paterniti moved to suspend the rules and vote on the appointments, seconded by Councilman Sheldon.

Carried: 9 – 0

Councilman Sheldon moved to approve the appointments, seconded by Councilman Faulkner.

Carried: 9 – 0

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

202401B00.09

Roger Harrower of 321 Palmer Street, Jamestown, appeared before the City Council to discuss the power of prayer. Mr. Harrower quoted 1 Timothy 2: 1 – 4. He noted that his church, Lakewood Baptist Church has been praying for elected officials in the area.

202401B00.10

Andrew Dickson of Gertz Road appeared before the City Council to encourage the City Council to approve the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program by the New York State DOT.

202401B00.11

Denise Hutchison of 945 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Jamestown, appeared before the City Council to oppose the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program. Ms. Hutchison would like to know what the plans are to deal with the parking problems this will cause. Home owners and businesses alike will be negatively impacted by the proposed changes.

202401B00.12

Melissa Paterniti of 346 Falconer Street appeared before the City Council to speak about the JTNY Elab. She is within the 30-day public comment period and wished to have her thoughts noted for the record. Ms. Paterniti is opposed to the program as she believes that CDBG funds should be utilized more in neighborhood revitalization and demolitions. She questioned how many homes have been demolished by the Land Bank? She would like to see less money allocated to businesses and more to neighborhoods.

202401B00.13

Robert Reedy of 731 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Jamestown, appeared before the City Council to voice his opposition to the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program.

202401B00.14

David Mareri of Parkdale Avenue, Jamestown, (owner of Hector's Bikes and Sales on E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street) appeared before the City Council to voice his opposition to the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program.

202401B00.15

Scott Axelson of 402 Park Street, Jamestown, appeared before the City Council to discuss the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program. He suggested that there be a public input session to hear from residents.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

202401B01

BY COUNCILMAN FAULKNER:

RESOLVED, That bills be audited and warrants drawn on the proper funds in payment of the respective amounts, totals as follows: General Fund, Capital Fund, Special Revenue Fund and Trust & Agency Fund \$9,108,882.69 in accordance with the period ending Jan 26, 2024 copy of which is annexed hereto and a copy to be filed in the office of the City Clerk, and be it further

RESOLVED, That disbursements in the total amount of \$6,567,881.05 and payrolls in the total amount of \$2,541,001.64 as paid by the Comptroller and City Clerk/Treasurer, a copy of which is annexed hereto and a copy to be placed on file in the office of the City Clerk be and hereby are approved.

Carried: 9 – 0

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202401B02

BY COUNCILMAN FAULKNER:

RESOLVED, That warrants be drawn and paid to the respective owners and paying agent the sum of Four Hundred Forty-Four Thousand, Nine Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and No Cents (\$444,925.00) in accordance with the bond an note requirements as follows:

**Public Improvement Bonds**, issue of November 19, 2013, defeasance of 2004 Chautauqua County IDA Bonds, Three Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$395,000.00) in principal and Forty-Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and No Cents (\$49,925.00) for six months' interest at 1.8% per annum on Two Million, Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2,750,000.00).

Note: This is the first of two payments scheduled for this year. The second interest only payment is due August 1, 2024.

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B03

BY COUNCILMAN FAULKNER:

RESOLVED, That warrants be drawn and paid to the respective owners and paying agent the sum of Two Hundred Eighteen Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars and No Cents (\$218,456.00) in accordance with the bond and note requirement as follows:

**Public Improvement Bonds Series A**, issue of April 22, 2015, One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$180,000.00) in principal and Thirty-Eight Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars and no cents (\$38,456) for six months' interest at 2.5% per annum on One Million, Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,415,000.00).

Note: This is the first of two payments scheduled for this year. The second interest only payment is due 7/15/2024.

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B04

BY COUNCILMAN SHELDON:

RESOLVED, That the Mayor is authorized to execute an agreement with E.E. Austin & Son, 1919 Reed Street, Erie, PA 16503 for the purpose of renovating the truck room floor at the following location:

- Fire Station 5 – 195 Fairmount Avenue

For a total amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thirty-One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$231,000.00), subject to the approval of Corporation Council as to form.

Carried: 9 – 0

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202401B05

BY COUNCILMAN SHELDON:

RESOLVED, That the City Comptroller be and hereby is authorized to make the following amendment to the 2024 General Fund Budget for the purpose of funding renovations to Fire Station 5, as follows:

INCREASE: Appropriations \$230,000.00  
FIRE Department Capital  
A.3410.0200.0000

DECREASE: Appropriations \$230,000.00  
ARPA Account  
A.0000.0000.0000

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B06

BY COUNCILMAN SHELDON:

RESOLVED that the Mayor and Mark Roetzer, Jr., P.E. Acting Director of Public Works and Acting Director of Parks, Recreation & Conservation, be and they hereby are authorized and directed to purchase for the Department of Public Works, from SHI International Corp., 290 Davidson Ave., Somerset, NJ 08873, cameras, accessories, licensing, and support for Parking Ramp cameras for a total amount not to exceed Seventy Thousand, Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars and Forty-Eight Cents (\$70,770.48) subject to approval of the Corporation Counsel as to form.

Carried: 9- 0

202401B07

BY COUNCILMAN SHELDON:

RESOLVED that the Mayor and Mark Roetzer, Jr., P.E. Acting Director of Public Works and Acting Director of Parks, Recreation & Conservation, be and they hereby are authorized and directed to purchase for the Department of Public Works, from Nest Wireless Global, 4115 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, NY 11355, cameras and lighting upgrades for parking ramps cameras and lighting upgrades project for a total amount not to exceed One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand, Nine Hundred Ten Dollars and No Cents (\$178,910.00) subject to approval of the Corporation Counsel as to form.

Carried: 9 – 0

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**PUBLIC SAFETY**

202401B08

BY COUNCILMAN REYNOLDS:

RESOLVED, That the following person be and she hereby is re-appointed to the office of Commissioner of Deeds in and for the City of Jamestown for a term of two years:

Nancy I. Amoroso

February 14, 2024 – February 13, 2026

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B09

BY COUNCILMAN REYNOLDS:

WHEREAS Cummins Jamestown Engine Plant has awarded the City of Jamestown Police Department a grant in the amount of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) to purchase training books and materials for the 2024 Citizens Police Academy

RESOLVED, that the City of Jamestown hereby accepts the grant, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Jamestown City Council hereby extends its appreciation and gratitude on behalf of the citizens of the City of Jamestown to the Jamestown Cummins Engine Plant for the generous award.

Councilman Russell thanked the police chief and staff for bringing back the Citizens Police Academy.

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B10

BY COUNCILMAN RUSSELL:

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2002 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200201C03 that effective immediately and until further notice instituted a hiring freeze for the City of Jamestown, and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2006 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200611B17 to extend the freeze to any change in employment from Part-Time to Full-Time status, and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that within the Jamestown Police Department, an effort to effectively manage the city's day-to-day responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner, it is in the City of Jamestown's best interest to lift the hiring freeze for a certain position, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that effective immediately the Jamestown City Council hereby suspends the hiring freeze instituted by resolution number 200201C03 and authorized the filling of the following position due to the essential nature of the position.

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- One part-time Crime Analyst in the Jamestown Police Department

This position is funded by the GIVE X award.

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B11

BY COUNCILMAN RUSSELL:

RESOLVED, That Recruit Firefighters Joshua Ellman, Garrett Fransen, Clarke Wiltsie, and John Russo be hereby authorized to attend the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control – Recruit Firefighter Training Program, as conducted by the New York State Academy of Fire Science, located at 600 College Avenue, Montour Falls, NY 14865 beginning February 12, 2024 and concluding May 23, 2024 with fees and expenses paid pursuant to Section 77-b of the General Municipal Laws of the State of New York.

Carried: 9 – 0

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

202401B12

BY COUNCILMAN DAVERSA:

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown passed a Complete Streets resolution in 2012 stating the City of Jamestown will make complete streets practices a routine part of everyday operations, will approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve City streets, will incorporate all relevant existing and future planning documents approved or adopted by the City Council, and will work in coordination with other departments, agencies and jurisdictions to achieve complete streets;

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation “NYSDOT” 2025 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street project would encourage bicycling, make bicycling safe and more appealing; and facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects which will improve safety and reduce vehicular traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown Department of Public Works wishes to add to the 2025 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street project, striping for a bicycle lane and removal of parking on the eastbound side of E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to Tiffany Avenue;

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the Mayor and Mark Roetzer, Jr., P.E., Acting Director of Public Works hereby support the project to include the striping and parking elimination, subject to the approval of Corporation Counsel as to form.

Councilman Sheldon is concerned with the plan due to the hardships that will be created for the residents and other safety concerns. The Resource Center would lose a handicap parking spot and bus drop off area.

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Councilman Russell also voiced his concern on the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program. Not only is it a safety issue, but it is an inconvenience for residents on the street as well.

Councilman Bonfiglio has driven through the proposed location and found upwards of 32 vehicles midday to 40 in the evening parked on the street. This is a safety issue for children and adults alike.

Councilman Reynolds spoke regarding the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program. He noted that this has been discussed by a previous council in an attempt to modernize and enhance the streets with safer bike lanes and crosswalks. Mr. Reynolds suggested that the council should listen to the experts who claim that that the proposed plan will slow traffic down and make the road safer. There will be an adjustment period and inconvenience but he still feels that the councilmembers should trust the authorities in the road structure business.

Councilman Daversa spoke regarding the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program in terms of pedestrian safety as well as e-bike safety. He thanked councilmembers for taking the time to talk with residents and business owners on this issue.

Failed: 6 – 3 (Sheldon, Brackman, Faulkner, Bonfiglio, Russell, Dolce)

202401B13

BY COUNCILMAN BONFIGLIO:

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2002 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200201C03 that effective immediately and until further notice instituted a hiring freeze for the City of Jamestown, and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2006 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200611B17 to extend the freeze to any change in employment from Part-Time to Full-Time status, and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that within the Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department an effort to effectively manage the city's day-to-day responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner, it is in the City of Jamestown's best interest to lift the hiring freeze for a certain position, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that effective immediately the Jamestown City Council hereby suspends the hiring freeze instituted by resolution number 200201C03 and authorized the filling of the following positions due to the essential nature of the position.

Laborer positions in the Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department.

The positions are vacant as the result of the creation of positions in the 2024 General Fund Budget.

Carried: 9 – 0

**REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS ON ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS**

Councilman Reynolds spoke regarding the Fenton Historical Society Annual Meeting. He noted that there is a small deficit in the budget. Membership is down, but all programs saw a large increase. There are still some concerns regarding the roof of the mansion, but that will be discussed at a later date. The Board of Directors expressed their gratitude to Dan Stone and the Parks Department for their hard work, as all of the support that the city offers to the museum and Walnut Grove Park.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

202401B14

BY COUNCILMAN PATERNITI:

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2002 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200201C03 that effective immediately and until further notice instituted a hiring freeze for the City of Jamestown, and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2006 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200611B17 to extend the freeze to any change in employment from Part-Time to Full-Time status, and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that within the Jamestown Police Department, an effort to effectively manage the city's day-to-day responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner, it is in the City of Jamestown's best interest to lift the hiring freeze for a certain position, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that effective immediately the Jamestown City Council hereby suspends the hiring freeze instituted by resolution number 200201C03 and authorized the filling of the following positions due to the essential nature of the positions.

One police officer in the Jamestown Police Department

There are several vacancies for the position of police officer.

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B15

BY COUNCILMAN SHELDON:

WHEREAS, under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs, entitlement communities are allotted funds to implement housing, neighborhood, community, and economic development activities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown has prepared for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2020-2024) that is designed to help local jurisdictions to assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions, and serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify

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housing and community development priorities that align and focus funding from the CPD formula block grant programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown has been designated an entitlement community and is eligible to prepare and submit an Annual Action Plan which includes proposed housing, neighborhood, community, and economic development activities to be funded through the City's CDBG and HOME Program funding allotments; and

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2020, the Council approved Resolution adopting the 2020- 2024 CDBG/HOME 5-Year Consolidated Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown in the 2018/2019 Annual Action Plan allocated \$269,970 of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 CDBG funds to be used for the Small Business Development & Technical Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, \$145,783.30 of the allocation for Small Business Development & Technical

WHEREAS, this substantial amendment establishes the direct allocation of 2022, 2023, and 2024 CDBG funds from CDBG Small Business Development & Technical Assistance to the Small Business Development Center at JCC for the administration of program activities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and is hereby authorized and directed to submit the Significant Amendment of the PY 2022, 2023, and 2024 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Carried: 9 – 0

202401B16

BY COUNCILMAN FAULKNER:

RESOLVED, That the Mayor be, and she hereby is, authorized and directed to enter into a contractual agreement with C&S Companies for the drafting and delivery of a new Comprehensive Plan and updated Zoning Code for the City of Jamestown, New York of the Washington and South Main, utilizing DOS and ARPA funds, in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00).

Carried: 9 – 0

Council President Dolce thanked the councilmembers for all of the conversations they have had with individuals and business owners regarding the proposed E. Second Street Complete Streets Program. Mr. Dolce spoke with Mark Roetzer regarding potential alternatives. The project needs to move forward which is why the vote was necessary. The vote was specifically regarding the bike lane to see if it should be included in the working plan.

Councilman Daversa noted that the initial plan was to grind and resurface E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, but the NYS DOT decided to go ahead with the Complete Streets Program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jennifer R. Williams  
City Clerk/ Treasurer