

Minutes

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, June 23, 2025

7:30 P.M.

Municipal Building, Jamestown, New York

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilwoman Brackman

Others Present: Mayor Kimberly Ecklund, City Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer John, Comptroller Ericka Thomas, Director of Development Crystal Surdyk, Interim Deputy Fire Chief Ryan Roush, Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Timothy Jackson, Director of Public Works Mark Roetzer, Corporation Counsel Elliot Raimondo, Mayor's Administrative Assistant Ashlan Davis

Council President Dolce called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Paul Wolfe of 212 Fulton Street, Jamestown appeared before the City Council to air police complaints. He has a 17-minute video in which a crime was committed, but she will not make an arrest. He was advised that if complains, he will then be arrested. He does not feel that he can go to the JPD and receive fair treatment due to officer intimidation.

Corporation Counsel Raimondo asked Mr. Wolfe to send the video for review. Due to the lack of trust in the Jamestown Police Department, it was recommended that Mr. Wolfe call the New York State Police or Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department for assistance.

Pete Miraglia of 29 Gwendolin Ave., Jamestown, appeared before the City Council to discuss his desire for a crosswalk on 2nd Street at Pine Street. There is a lot of pedestrian traffic on the street due to many businesses and the vehicles travel way too fast.

Director of Public Works Mark Roetzer will visit the site and assess the situation.

Larry Coon of 215 Fulton Street, Jamestown, appeared before the City Council to complain about the individuals that spoke during the Public Safety Committee. The individuals that complained are the same individuals that he and Mr. Wolfe complain about.

Standing Committees

Housing Committee

6:30 p.m., Police Training Room

Informational Report

Margaret Conley spoke during the Housing Committee regarding her concerns with the police, homes, trash, etc. Ms. Surdyk and Councilman Reynolds addressed her concerns. Improvements are planned for the neighborhood with infrastructure and demolitions.

Director of Development Crystal Surdyk spoke about the potential grants the city is hoping to apply for. The Department of Development will gather information at an ESD forum to assist in applying for these grants. Developers will be visiting the city in July to discuss potential uses for the Furniture Mart Building.

New York State is requiring the City of Jamestown to update the City Code as it pertains to code enforcement. Local Law #2 will change the required language in sections 4, 9, and 10 to be in compliance.

The five-year Consolidated Action Plan is still under way. Public comments are open and can be submitted via survey or online.

Building and Coding Code Enforcement Officer Larry Scalise will be retiring on Friday, June 27, 2025 and will be replaced by Kenny Garcia. Mr. Garcia's first day with the city is July 7, 2025. Additionally, a Principal Planner, Jason Kulaszewski has been hired. Jason is relocating from Buffalo and Kenny is relocating from South Carolina. Both new hires have extensive experience in their fields.

Ramsey Agriculture purchased 40 Winsor Street and 65 River Street. They are currently working on stabilization with exterior scaffolding at 40 Winsor. It is mostly superficial. The owner of the company is in the structural steel business. He has provided plans for internal stabilization. A lot of activity will be happening going forward. Over \$250,000 has been put into the building already. They would like to acquire additional parcels as well. The plan is to have vertical growing operations, such as micro greens, vegetables, etc. Additionally, they will be utilizing bio digestion to energize their entire facility. The hope is to create enough energy to feed back into the power grid.

Finance Committee

7:00 pm., Mayor's Conference Room

Resolutions

1. WHEREAS, THE New York State Department of Transportation has notified the City that it intends to take, via eminent domain, two small sections of sidewalk on the northeast and southwest corners of the intersection of 4th Street and Prendergast Avenue for the purpose of installing new curbing and light poles, and

WHEREAS, the NYS DOT has authorized payment in the total sum of Four Hundred Twenty Dollars and No Cents (\$420.00) for said parcels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Mayor be and she hereby is authorized to execute the transfer documents for said property and accept the sum of Four Hundred Twenty Dollars and No Cents (\$420.00) as payment therefore.

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

2. WHEREAS, funding has become available through the 2025 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to advance Governor Kathy Hochul’s efforts to improve New York’s business climate and expand economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies Program was established by New York State in the amount of \$1 million, at \$100,000 per project, to facilitate strategic plans and/or feasibility studies or assessments for municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown intends to apply to the Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies Program by July 31, 2025; now therefore it be

RESOLVED, that the City Council of Jamestown, New York is fully supportive of the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) submission of the Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies Program.

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

3. WHEREAS, funding has become available through the 2025 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to advance Governor Kathy Hochul’s efforts to improve New York’s business climate and expand economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Empire State Development in partnership with New York State Homes and Community Renewal is launching a \$100 million Pro Housing Supply Fund to help finance essential infrastructure needed to facilitate new housing developments in certified Pro-Housing Communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown as a certified Pro Housing Community intends to apply for funding through the Pro Housing Supply Fund by July 31, 2025 to assist in the financing of essential infrastructure to facilitate new housing developments; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council of Jamestown, New York is fully supportive of the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) submission of the Pro Housing Supply Fund.

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

4. RESOLVED, that Lieutenants Adam McKinley and Joshua Nickerson be, and hereby are, authorized to attend the FBI Great Lakes Leadership Seminar to be held at the Regional Command College in Niagara Falls, NY from September 21st through September 26th, 2025, with lodging, meals and gas expenses paid by the Jamestown Police Department pursuant to Section 77-b of the General Municipal Laws of the State of New York.

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

5. RESOLVED, That the Mayor be and she hereby is authorized to execute an agreement R. Patti Concrete Excavating, LLC, P.O. Box 3081, Jamestown, NY 14701 for the Allen Park Bandshell Stairs Project 2025

1 Lump Sum 5' Wide Concrete Stairs @ \$63,250.00
1 Lump Sum Tube Railing @ \$41,070.00
1 Lump Sum Landscaping @ \$6,660.00

for a total bid amount of One Hundred Ten Thousand, Nine Hundred Eighty Dollars and No Cents (\$110,980.00), subject to the approval of the Corporation Counsel as to form.

It was noted that donations were received from the \$18,000 was received from the Community Foundation, \$20,000 from the Allen Park Women's Club, additional funding will come from CDBG and the Park's Department budget.

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

6. RESOLVED, That the Mayor be and she hereby is authorized to execute Change Order #1 with Jamestown Roofing, Inc., 119 Clifton Ave., Jamestown, NY 14701, for City Hall Select Roof Repairs based on the Change Order, for a total increase amount of Eighty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$80,000.00) subject to the approval of Corporation Counsel as to form.

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

Informational Report

Comptroller Ericka Thomas provided an update on ARPA funding. So far only \$265,000 has been spent in 2025. There are 31 active projects including the JPD shooting range. There is just under \$8.2 million left, however it has all been allocated. It is possible that if projects come in under budget, there could still be leftover money.

Public Safety Committee

7:00 p.m., Police Training Room

Resolutions

1. RESOLVED, that Lieutenants Adam McKinley and Joshua Nickerson be, and hereby are, authorized to attend the FBI Great Lakes Leadership Seminar to be held at the Regional Command College in Niagara Falls, NY from September 21st through September 26th, 2025, with lodging, meals and gas expenses paid by the Jamestown Police Department pursuant to Section 77-b of the General Municipal Laws of the State of New York.

It was noted that this training does train offers to ready them for the FBI, it is meant to train police officers and foster relationships with other agencies.

- This resolution also appears on the Finance Agenda.
- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

2. RESOLVED, That the Board of Public Utilities be, and it hereby is, requested to install one (1) new 150w equivalent LED (L2, 51-75W) fixture at the following location:

BPU Pole 30185 Meadow Lane

- The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

Local Law

3. Local Law 2 of 2025: Update of Code Enforcement Law as recommended by NYS Department of State.

- The committee agreed to place the Local Law on the June 30, 2025 Voting Session Agenda.

Informational Report

4. Babe Ruth World Series Meet and Greet, to be held on Friday, August 15, 2025 from 4:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., on Lafayette Street, between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

- The committee approved of the Special Event as presented.

5. Latinx and Hispanic Heritage Festival, to be held on Saturday, September 20, 2025 from 12:00 pm. Until 8:00 pm., at Jackson-Taylor Park.

- The committee approved of the Special Event as presented.

Margaret Conley and Diamond Ware appeared to speak in the Public Safety Committee. Chief Jackson provided a long list of police calls to Fulton Street along with the actions taken. The list will be forwarded along to councilmembers.

Pete Miraglia also appeared to speak in the Public Safety Committee to discuss his idea for a crosswalk on 2nd street.

Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m., DOD Conference Room

Resolutions

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Informational Report

The summer work plan is in full swing at the DPW. Schuyler Ave. and Barrows Street are in the process of getting new curbs and gutters.

Councilman Russell asked about the City Hall roof update. Mr. Roetzer noted that there are two roofs, the main roof and the penthouse roof. Leaks have been noticed near the elevators from the penthouse roof. There, a layover roof will be placed over the existing penthouse roof.

Councilman Russell asked Mr. Raimondo if any money has been paid from the Verizon Tower. Mr. Raimondo stated that money has not come in and his office is pursuing legal action against them.

Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Ecklund reminded the public that the splash pads are open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Executive Session

There were three items for Executive Session under ongoing litigation. No action to be taken. At 7:58 Councilman Russell moved to enter into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bonfiglio and carried 8 – 0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jennifer R. John
City Clerk/Treasurer