



City of Johnstown

Meeting: Common Council, Business Meeting
 Date: Monday, July 21, 2025
 Time: 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Council Chambers, City Hall
 Presiding Officer: Amy Praught, Mayor

Meetings are broadcast using Facebook Live. The public is able to view the meeting from the official City of Johnstown Facebook page: [City of Johnstown, New York](#)

The proceedings of meetings are taped for the benefit of the City Clerk; the minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings; therefore, the minutes are not a word-for-word transcript.

Business Meeting Minutes

- **CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- **ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL-** (record of officials in attendance)

		PRESENT	ABSENT / EXCUSED	LATE
Amy Praught	Mayor	X		
Scott Jeffers	Council Member-at-Large	X		
Bradley Hayner	Council Member Ward 1	X		
Scott Miller	Council Member Ward 2		Excused	
Eric Parker	Council Member Ward 3	X		
Max Spritzer	Council Member Ward 4	X		
Thomas Herr	City Treasurer	X		
Michael M. Albanese	City Attorney	X		
Carrie M. Allen	City Clerk	X		
Cody Logan	Deputy City Clerk	X		
Larry O'Regan	Fire Chief		Excused	
David F. Gilbo	Chief of Police	X		
Christopher J. Vose	City Engineer	X		
Diedrie M. Roemer	Director, Senior Citizens Program	X		

- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Persons wishing to address the Council regarding city business are permitted to speak for three (3) minutes. A council member will monitor Facebook during the session and read comments to the Council. There is no exchange of dialogue during this portion of the meeting. Profane language, obscene conduct, or disruptive comments are not acceptable and will not be allowed.

- Jacob Gleghorn, 34 S. Market Street, inquired about the timeline for demolition activity. City Engineer responded that demolition is approximately two weeks out due to pending paperwork and coordination with National Grid.

- **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. CDBG Grant - Opened: 6:10 pm / Closed: 6:16 pm

Mayor: The city is applying for approximately \$900,000 for sewer infrastructure and \$700,000 for bridge construction tied to the senior housing development and which will benefit everyone in the City. She commended staff, including Carrie and Chris, on grant-writing efforts and emphasized the city's proactive development goals.

Speakers:

- Ron Peters, President of CRG: Spoke in strong support of the project and application. Good for city and use of site.
- Tom Roehl, resident, Ward 3 County Board Supervisor & IDA Liaison: Expressed enthusiastic support, noting alignment with Pro-Housing initiatives. Keep our seniors here; win for Johnstown and seniors
- Diedrie Roemer, Director of Johnstown Senior Center: Spoke on benefits for local seniors and proximity to amenities. Her members have already expressed they are waiting for applications to become available.

2. City Treasurer Referendum – Opened 6:16 pm / Closed: 6:16 pm

Speakers:

- John Sagan, 111 Linden Avenue: Advocated changing the Treasurer from an elected to an appointed position to improve accountability and qualifications. Past administration cost the taxpayers thousands of dollars.

3. Building Code – Opened: 6:16 pm / Closed: 6:17 pm

Speakers: None

• **APPROVE MINUTES**

1. Business Meeting – June 16, 2025					
<u>Action Taken</u>					
Motion:	Council Member	Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent: 1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Parker	Noes:	0	Abstain: 0
2. Special Meeting – July 8, 2025					
<u>Action Taken</u>					
Motion:	Council Member	Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent: 1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain: 0

• **APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS**

<u>Action Taken</u>					
Motion:	Council Member	Parker	Ayes:	4	Absent: 1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Hayner	Noes:	0	Abstain: 0

• **REPORTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS** - Reports are attached and made part of the meeting minutes.

- New paving contract awarded – pricing was able to offer paving to 2 additional streets; list will be on website when available.
- Townsend Ave bridge project to start July 28 with detours in place.
- DPW - acquisition of 7-8 new pickup trucks to improve fleet reliability.
- Briggs Street - Continued upgrades including fencing and sidewalk work. New diagonal parking will take place soon
- Water drainage improvements at Warren Street School site.
- 2023 financials accepted by the state; 2024 audit underway.
- Bond closing scheduled for August 7, 2025.
- Upcoming energy upgrades for street lights and at City Hall.

• **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS** – Reports and/or Minutes are attached and made part of the meeting minutes.

- Sewer Board, Eric Parker:
- FAGE - Discussion on proposed anaerobic digestion project.
 - Addressed manhole overflow on Mason Street.
 - Lighting transformer failure at sledge building resolved.
 - Recognized upcoming retirement of senior lab technician (37 years).
- Planning Board, Scott Jeffers
- Classic Auto Wash - updates for car wash conversion to touchless bays. Public Hearing 8/5
 - Granted variance for West Meadow Creamery signage.
 - Reviewed Five Corners Development 64-unit senior housing proposal. Asked for two variances: height and parking. Public Hearing 8/5
- Assessor’s Office, Scott Jeffers
- 2025 Final Roll filed July 1, 2025. Work has begun on 2026 Roll.

• **RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, LOCAL LAWS**

LL#2. Local Law #2 - Treasurer Referendum					
<u>Action Taken</u>					
Motion:	Council Member	Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent: 1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Spritzer	Noes:	0	Abstain: 0
LL#3. Local Law #3 - Building Code					
<u>Action Taken</u>					
Motion:	Council Member	Parker	Ayes:	4	Absent: 1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain: 0
57. CDBG Grant					
<u>Action Taken</u>					
Motion:	Council Member	Spritzer	Ayes:	4	Absent: 1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Hayner	Noes:	0	Abstain: 0

58. CHIPS Award

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member	Jeffers	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Parker	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

59. Flexible Benefits Plan

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member	Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

60. Amend Bond

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member	Parker	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Hayner	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

61. City-owned property offer

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member	Spritzer	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

62. Fair Housing Officer

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member	Jeffers	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Hayner	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

• **WATER GRIEVANCES**

1. 13 Grove Street – Tabled from last meeting to gather further information. No flags were gathered from meter, inspection showed no issues. City Engineer recommends to not offer relief. Give option to have meter calibrated.

Action Taken: A Motion was made that no relief will be granted based on the recommendation of the City Engineer.

Motion:	Council Member	Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

• **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Colonial Little Theatre presents the musical Chicago on July 25th, 26th & 27th
2. The Johnstown Historical Society at the James Burk Inn presents Murder at the Jimmy Burk Inn, Friday, August 1st
3. Vintage Café Car Show – Friday, August 15th
4. Harmony of Art – Saturday, August 16th
5. Concerts in the Park:
Johnstown Citizens Band – Fridays: July 25th August 1st, 8th & Wednesday, August 20th
Midsummer Concert Series – Thursdays, July 24th, 31st, August 7th & 14th
6. Business Meeting – August 18th @ 6:00pm

• **ADJOURN**

Time: 7:43 pm

Motion:	Council Member	Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member	Spritzer	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk