



# City of Johnstown

Meeting: Common Council, Business Meeting  
 Date: Monday, March 18, 2024  
 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.

- 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		X	
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		
Bruce Heberer	Fire Chief	X		
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.

Speakers: None

- PUBLIC SPEAKER**

Chandra Cotter, Tourism Coordinator discussed what she is doing for the city and provided the council with handouts, attached hereto and made part of the meeting minutes. She will be working on showcasing business, promoting events, and history.  
 Spritzer asked if community members can make donations. Chandra stated that the city can't fundraise but perhaps there is a way for someone to sponsor an event.  
 Mayor feels that the City of Johnstown has more to offer than any other municipality in the County. Having someone to push content, promote the City and create events is important and benefits the businesses and residents.  
 Chandra stated that plans are already beginning for the nation's 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. 2026.

- PUBLIC HEARING**

1. [Comprehensive Plan](#) & [Zoning Amendments](#)

Opened: 6:15 p.m.

Speakers: None

Closed: 6:15 p.m.

Pending 239-m review; No action will be taken until feedback is received from the Fulton County Planning Board.

- APPROVE MINUTES**

1. [Business Meeting – February 20, 2024](#)

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member Spritzer	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1(Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0
Discussion:	None				

• **APPROVE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS**

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member Parker	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member Hayner	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0
Discussion:	None				

• **REPORTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS** - Reports are attached [hereto](#) and made part of the meeting minutes.

The following questions were asked of department heads:

**Public Works:** Parker asked about the valve replacement project and if it will be put back out to bid. Vose said that he hopes that will happen soon but it all depends on funding.  
 Spritzer asked where the city was on the water meter replacement project. Vose said we are approximately 90% complete. About 100 non-compliance who have not responded to any letters. Spritzer asked what recourse we have. Vose said next step would be letters or door hangers stating that their water will be shut off on a specified date and unless they call to schedule an appointment.

**Police:** Parker asked if they have seen any response to the advertisement for lateral transfers; Gilbo said he had not.

**Fire/Code:** Spritzer asked Heberer to speak about Burn Ban. Heberer stated the city has a zero tolerance regarding burning during the Burn Ban period through May 15<sup>th</sup>.  
 Parker asked how the new ambulance was working out. Heberer stated that they have been busy county wide

**Treasurer:** Parker questioned Herr about AUDs. Herr stated that he was hoping for submission this week

• **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS** - Reports are attached [hereto](#) and made part of the meeting minutes.

**Sewer Board:** Eric Parker - 2/21 Annual report was submitted. Working on odor issues, First Light implementing upgrades, recent hires are going well, staffing is at acceptable level, bidding on small pickup truck  
 3/13 discussed the accident of an unmanned roll off truck rolled down hill hitting and destroying the communications building. Plans are underway for new building, approx. one year.

**Planning Board:** Scott Jeffers - Jeffers stated Deli Master is looking to add an addition to their existing business. A Public Hearing is scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Assessor's Office:** Scott Miller - Mayor Praught read the assessor notes

• **RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, LOCAL LAWS**

24. [Credit Card; City](#)

Action Taken

Motion:	Council Member Hayner	Ayes:	4	Absent:	1 (Miller)
Seconded:	Council Member Jeffers	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0
Discussion:	Parker asked who would be the holder of card; Herr stated as Treasurer he would have the card in his office.				

• **DISCUSSION**

- Mayor Praught noted that March is Women's History Month. Elizabeth Cady Stanton Hometown Association has displayed photographs of 15 exceptional women in downtown businesses.
- Parker asked about the new city signage. Mayor Praught stated that the city partnered with the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Consortium for the signs. There will be a total of 11 erected in the entrances to the City, there are currently 2 up.

• **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Sand barrels will be collected the week of March 25<sup>th</sup>
2. City offices close at noon on Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>
3. Brush drop-off on W. Main Street is now open
4. Curb-side brush pick up begins the first week of April through April 30<sup>th</sup>
5. Presidential Primary – April 2<sup>nd</sup>
6. Business Meeting – April 15<sup>th</sup>

• **ADJOURN**

Time: 6:33 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk