

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Newburgh was held on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the third floor Council Chambers at City Hall, 83 Broadway, Newburgh, NY.

The Prayer was led by Pastor Rosie Andrews followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Kennedy, presiding; Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee- 5

COMMUNICATIONS

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the minutes of the February 25, 2013 City Council meeting be approved.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy- 5

CARRIED

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the Notices of Claims be referred to the Corporation Counsel with power to act.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy- 5

CARRIED

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING THE AGENDA

Janet Gianopolous commented about Agenda Item #4, the approval of the minutes from the February 25th meeting. She wanted to know why the council approved the submittal of an application for funds to conduct a youth program that would service 10 White children, 150 Black or African-American children and 35 Hispanic or Latino children. She did not understand the breakdown.

Councilwoman Lee stated that it may have to do with the stats, especially if it is on an Orange County application. O.C. most likely would like to know who the participants in the program are. She does not want to over think this matter. If we are asking the County for money, then we have to abide by their rules. She pointed out that herself and Gianopolous both know, that even colleges ask its applicants specific background information. A lot of the funding out there is based on the number of minorities in need of it.

Councilman Dillard believed that it had to do with demographics in the target areas, which are Census Tracts 3, 4 and 5. Within these census tracts the majority of the youth *are* African-American. The money is designated for the participants residing in the target areas. Also it is to provide summer employment to neighborhood youth dealing with financial hardship.

Mayor Kennedy pointed out that it is based on financial need. She is going to look into the specific program and get back to Ms. Gianopolous regarding her concerns.

Councilman Brown assured Gianopolous that it is never this council's intent to exclude *any* race of children. If any discrepancy is discovered regarding the number, then the council will change it.

**** Seated and without proper microphone coverage Gianopolous engaged in a direct dialogue with members of council****

Chuck Thomas encouraged the council to embrace the citizens of Newburgh who are working very hard on the Newburgh Illuminated event. The group would like to enter into a partnership with the City of Newburgh to share the vision with the rest of the population so that they can see Newburgh in a new light.

Ed Wolf spoke on behalf of the Newburgh Professional Business Association. A sidewalk sale is going to be held during the Illuminated event on June 22nd in Downing Park. There will be a professional crafts show highlighting the best of what Newburgh has to offer. They are very excited about it and looking for the full support from the council.

Tony Scully, President of the Downing Park Planning Committee commented. DPPC has been around for more than twenty-five years. It has worked for the enhancement of Downing Park for *all* of the residents of the City of Newburgh. DPPC is in full support of the Illuminated committee having as many activities as they would like to have in the park.

Brenda McPhail remarked that she would like the council to think first before it goes ahead and votes on Resolution #36-2013. She does not know where everyone has been for the last twenty-five years. She feels that Councilwoman Angelo is the only person who has any concern for the youth in the community. All of a sudden people are coming out of the woodwork. Ms. Angelo has always asked the community to help with the International festival. McPhail says she knows because Regina has asked her for assistance. McPhail volunteers her time because she loves this community too. If we really love Newburgh, then we ought to do something for it without looking for any dollars. She feels that if we are not going to work with Angelo then we need to save up some money, do some fundraising and seek donations and then try it again in 2014.

Kippy Boyle spoke in favor of the Illuminated festival. To date there are between eight and ten events that are scheduled throughout the city. Each event has already secured its own funding. Last year, Downing Park hosted 300 families at its annual Easter Egg Hunt. In just a couple short weeks they expect the participation of even more families at the Easter Egg event. For the park to be one of the central features of the Newburgh Illuminated is really just an expansion of all of the great things that Downing Park is already doing. She hopes that the council will lend its support to a festival for Newburgh. It is so important that we have the support of the City of Newburgh when the group goes out and seeks donations and advertisement.

Rev. Dave Mason remarked. He is in charge of the Concert Committee. He does not think it is a question of where they have been for the last twenty-five years. This is something different, and it approaches so many things that have never happened here before. We have an incredible amount of talent right here in our city. It is important that we begin to revitalize Newburgh by showcasing all of the various kinds of talent. The International Festival is a fantastic event. But this is something new. Mason believes it is something the citizens of Newburgh are ready for.

There being no further comments, this portion of the meeting was closed.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL REGARDING THE AGENDA

Mayor Kennedy commented that Resolution #36-2013 is not asking the City for any money nor is it asking for anything, except for the provision of general insurance coverage. If there is a grant involved then the City's Tax I.D. number should be provided. She stressed that it does not take away from any other festivals that are already planned. She supports the work that Regina does with the International Festival 100%. The more events that we have, the more we will attract people to Newburgh. It simply adds to what is already great about Newburgh. Our primary purpose is to continue focusing on what is good, and what is right in our city.

Councilman Brown stated that this event is so different from the International Festival in that it provides culture and education for our children, in terms of the history of our city. It has the potential to teach your children something that they may not already know. Introducing the children to Beethoven is exciting to him, because where else are they going to get that? And if they are teaching it in school, it is a very short lesson. He encourages the council to move forward on it. Let's do it this year, and then hopefully we can continue to do it year after year. Then in twenty-five years you won't have to come up to the microphone and ask where have you been? It will have already been established.

There being no further comments, this portion of the meeting was closed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Richard Herbek announced that Cheryl Gross will be resigning as City Comptroller on Wednesday, March 13th. He pointed out that we are very fortunate to appoint Katie Nivins to the post temporarily. Nivins is an accountant in the department. She has an extensive background as an accountant with CableVision. She came onboard a couple of years ago. She has given us enormous help in the accounting arena.

He mentioned that we are going to begin the search for a new Comptroller soon. We are going to put it at the very top of our list of priorities. We have made a lot of good progress and we would like to continue that as we go forward.

RESOLUTION NO.: 52 - 2013

OF

MARCH 11, 2013

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE
ORANGE COUNTY FIRE MUTUAL AID PLAN**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Newburgh, New York that the City Council approves the participation by the City of Newburgh Fire Department in the orange county Fire Mutual Aid Plan as now in effect and as amended from time to time (“Plan”); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Newburgh acknowledges and accepts its financial responsibility for such participation pursuant to General Municipal law Section 209(2)-(4); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Newburgh agrees to comply with all provisions of this Plan and will respond to all calls for assistance from another fire company or fire department through the County Division of Emergency Communications; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Newburgh, to the best of its knowledge, knows of no resolution or agreement against “outside service” by the City of Newburgh Fire Department that would affect the power of such department to participate in the Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager be and he is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the City of Newburgh, the Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is authorized to deliver to the County of Orange Fire Coordinator, an executed copy of the Plan and certified copy of this Resolution upon adoption.

Voted: In Favor _____ Opposed _____ Abstained _____

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy- 5

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO.: 53 - 2013

OF

MARCH 11, 2013

**RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO: 223-2012,
THE 2013 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NEWBURGH, NEW YORK
TO TRANSFER \$10,000.00 FROM CONTINGENCY TO
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT-MAINTENANCE IN CONNECTION
WITH THE CLEANUP OF 1 EDWARD STREET**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Newburgh, that Resolution No: 223-2012, the 2013 Budget of the City of Newburgh, is hereby amended as follows:

<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
A.1900 Special Items	\$10,000.00
.1990 Contingency	
A.1365 Property Management – Maintenance	
\$10,000.00	
.0459.0001 1 Edward Street Cleanup/Removal	

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy- 5

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO.: 54 - 2013

OF

MARCH 11, 2013

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BARTON & LOGUDICE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION FROM THE CENTRAL HUDSON MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT ON THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT EMERGENCY BACKUP GENERATION AND SOLIDS HANDLING SYSTEMS PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS

WHEREAS, this Council, by Resolution No.: 254-2011 of December 12, 2011, authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement for professional engineering services with Malcolm Pirnie-Arcadis in connection with the Waste Water Treatment Plant Emergency Backup Generation and Solids Handling Systems Project (the “WWTP Project”); and

WHEREAS, this Council, by Resolution No.: 108-2012 of June 18, 2012, authorized the City Manager to execute and amendment to the contract for professional engineering services with Malcolm Pirnie-Arcadis for detailed design services in connection with the WWTP Project; and

WHEREAS, this Council, by Resolution No. 161-2012 of September 24, 2012, authorized the City Manager to execute a contract with Malcolm Pirnie-Arcadis for Construction Phase Services in connection with the WWTP Project; and

WHEREAS, this Council, by Resolution No. 167-2012 of September 24, 2012 accepted a bid and authorized the City Manager to execute an electrical construction contract with Hudson Valley Electrical C&M, Inc. in connection with the installation of the back-up generator for the WWTP Project; and

WHEREAS, the WWTP Project is proceeding under a Consent Order with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the work associated with the WWTP Project is subject to strict completion deadlines; and

WHEREAS, during construction phase of the WWTP Project, unidentified substances were observed which may be related to the Central Hudson Manufactured Gas

Plant Remediation Project which may require evaluation by an independent engineering firm; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to engage the services of an independent engineering firm to evaluate whether further and additional remediation work is required at the WWTP and time is of the essence to ensure that the WWTP Project deadlines are met; and

WHEREAS, Barton & Loguidice has been identified as qualified to perform the professional engineering evaluation should it be required; and

WHEREAS, funding for such services shall be derived from HG1.8130.0200.8100; and

WHEREAS, this Council has determined that entering into a contract for professional engineering services with Barton & Loguidice is in the best interests of the City of Newburgh;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Newburgh, New York that the City Manager be and he is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Barton & Loguidice for professional engineering services in connection with the evaluation of substances found in connection with the construction phase of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Emergency Backup Generation and Solids Handling Systems Project at a cost not to exceed Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars.

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy-5

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO.: 55- 2013

OF

MARCH 11, 2013

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND REAPPOINTING
DENISE RIBBLE AND NATALIE MCKINSTRIE
AS MEMBERS TO THE WATERFRONT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Newburgh, New York that Denise Ribble and Natalie McKintrie be and are hereby re-appointed to the Waterfront Advisory Committee for a three (3) year term commencing on April 1, 2013 and expiring March 31, 2016.

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy-5

ADOPTED

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO.: 36 - 2013

OF

MARCH 11, 2013

**A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE INSURANCE AND THE CITY'S TAX ID TO
THE
NEWBURGH ILLUMINATED FESTIVAL**

WHEREAS, the Newburgh Illuminated Festival will be held in June 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Newburgh Illuminated Festival is an event designed to celebrate the rich history of the City as well as the great cultural diversity, to bring city residents together in celebration, to "illuminate" and market the great assets of the City, to bring new people into the City thus resulting in increased tourism, new business and positive regional perception, and

WHEREAS, this City Council finds that supporting the Newburgh Illuminated Festival as a City-sponsored event is in the best interests of the residents of the City of Newburgh and that cooperation between the Festival organizers and the City creates the greatest opportunity for success; and

WHEREAS, the organizers of the Newburgh Illuminated Festival have requested that the City Council support the Festival as a partnership between the City of Newburgh and the festival organizers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Newburgh, New York hereby supports the Newburgh Illuminated Festival as a City event with no City government financing and that such support be limited to providing insurance coverage for the event and the use of the City's Federal tax identification number for the purposes of applying for grant funds to support the event unless additional support is specifically approved by the Council members and the cost of any services provided by the City staff and departments are paid for by funds raised by the Festival organizers.

Councilwoman Angelo stated that now we can jumpstart the fundraising. She urged organizers to get on their phones and seek donations.

Councilwoman Angelo moved and Councilwoman Lee seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Ayes- Councilwoman Angelo, Councilman Brown, Councilman Dillard, Councilwoman Lee, Mayor Kennedy-5

ADOPTED

OLD BUSINESS- CONT'D

Councilman Dillard mentioned that he would like an update on the fishing pier, the South Street Riverfront Park, and Workforce Development Institute (WDI) for the next work session.

Mayor Kennedy stated she would like to get an agenda item scheduled to discuss cleanup of the city. She announced that Safe Harbors is sponsoring a cleanup on April 27th from 8:30 A.M. to Noon. She wants to see everyone out there cleaning in front of their places and giving any help they are able to provide.

Herbek commented that we have worked with Taylor Recycling before. He believes the company is going to provide the containers again at no cost to the City of Newburgh. Without the containers the program would not be able to run. He thanked Jim Taylor of the recycling company.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no comments at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING GENERAL MATTERS OF CITY BUSINESS

Pastor Rosie Andrews announced that Northeast Gateway to Freedom would like to do something special for everyone that works hard for this city. The organization is hosting a banquet on April 23rd, which is free to all leaders and dignitaries in Newburgh. She stated that they are not asking for any money. They just want to do something nice to encourage people for a change.

Brian Flannery pointed out that 387 Third Street looks so much better. The City took title to the property last fall. DPW was there a few weeks ago. They cut down all of the overgrown trees and cleaned up the debris. He and his neighbors are happy to see it clean.

Omari Shakur commented that March 7th was the one year anniversary of the shooting death of Michael Lembhard. He would like to know what the city has been doing with the investigation in the meantime. He stated that he received reports that an off-duty officer shot an individual at the hospital last week. Why wasn't this information in the newspapers? Everything else gets put in the paper. Second, as a result of him losing his trial he was supposed to go home and do further homework. Information concerning Michael Lembhard was not put on the agenda as it was ordered in writing by a judge. He has lodged several complaints about certain officers. Not one of those complaints has resulted in disciplinary action for those officers. Shakur does not even know why people continue to lodge complaints if nothing ever gets done about it. Summer is coming. He is telling the youth to do whatever they have to do. He feels that the police department is out of control more than ever. He is tired of having to attend our kids' funerals and crying. It is time for you to cry too.

Councilman Dillard responded to Shakur. He stated that the investigation actually consists of an examination in terms of policy and procedure. Investigators are doing their job as we speak, based on the proposal they submitted to this council. One of things they have asked for is a list of people from the community to participate in a focus group. Dillard mentioned that Shakur's name is on that list, but they have not reached that part of the process yet. He pointed out that it is a step in terms of the process.

Richard Senato spoke and introduced his business partner Paul Travato. They mentioned the work they are doing in the Orange County community. Last March Senato founded a Children's Cancer Foundation, called Love Holds Life, for the son of a Mount Vernon fire captain. They are currently working with two Orange County residents who are battling cancer. They

thanked the fire departments of Orange County for hosting them at the Orange County Firemen's Convention last year. The foundation presented Vinnie Vespa, a cancer patient of Monroe, with a \$10K check for treatment of Stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Senato would like to do a follow up presentation with the council and community regarding the work of the foundation. They would like to be more involved in the community to raise awareness.

Janet Gianopolous thanked the council for responding so temperately to what some people may have felt was a sensitive question. She truly believes that we need to look at all of our programs for children. Second she commented about some of the good news she heard at the recent State of the City Address. Due to the projected fund balance of \$3 Million and a housing settlement agreement that was reached between the council and a family, she moved that a conservative portion of that fund balance, say 1/3, be returned to the homeowners for our own security. We have been strapped for a couple of years now and our taxes have been doubled.

Second, she mentioned that the Town of Newburgh Police Department holds an informative Citizens' Police Academy, wherein people can learn more about how the department operates. We should look at the Town's situation to better familiarize the community with the day-to-day operations of our own police department. Next, many events are sponsored by Downing Park, including Summer Movie Night, Family Day, the Tuskegee Airmen, etc. In addition to events, there is bike riding and ducks on the pond.

Last, she stated that there were some comments missing from the meeting minutes of January 28, 2013. She remarked that a council member made, what she felt, was an important comment. The councilmember said, "I have received a number of complaints, and some of them could be interpreted as *criminal*." Gianopolous felt that this should have been included in the meeting minutes. (For more information refer to the recording of the Jan. 28th meeting approximately twenty-six minutes into the recording). Anytime a councilmember makes a statement, in which he or she deems as criminal in context, she feels that it should be included in the minutes.

Mark Coolidge announced that he is also going to do several cleanups in the city, starting with the cemetery on Washington Street in a couple of weeks. They are going to erect some of the fallen stones, grass cutting and weed whacking. He stated that summer is coming. The streets are going to get wild. What is our police department going to do to help keep our streets calm? Are they going to bring out their bicycles? Mingling and communicating with the young people is going to get you a lot further in life than sitting in a police vehicle. He pointed out that there are a lot of good officers here. Next, the

panhandling and drugs need to be addressed. Aren't there laws that we can enforce that ban people from hanging out on the corners all night long? You can not go into one store in our city without panhandlers asking you for a dollar. He would like to know what we are doing to bring our community together.

Brenda McPhail commented about the Playground on Wheels Program, which takes place around the area of South Lander Street. Most of the children who live in the areas of Census Tracts 3, 4 and 5 do not get the summer jobs. A lot of them do apply, but it seems as though the same kids get hired each year. She has a problem with that. Kids are going to be mischievous if they do not have anything to do. Second, she commented that every one of the bodegas in Newburgh, with the exception of one or two, is a known drug spot. Shop owners would not be allowing people to stand out in front of their businesses otherwise. It is being done in pure daylight. McPhail stated that we continue to talk about people selling drugs on Broadway. But she sees it down at the riverfront too. People throw stuff on the ground too, because she is the one who ends up picking it up. What are going to do about it?

Roxie Roxie remarked that at first she had her reservations about the Illuminated event. Let's do any event in Newburgh that offers something positive. Second, we need to bring the International Festival back downtown to the waterfront. When it is held uptown at the Armory site, then you do not get a lot of community participation. Last summer many of the amusement rides were shut down, because there was hardly anyone there to ride them. It is not very accessible to the residents that live downtown. They have to walk all the way to the Armory. If the event was held downtown, then it would be a better and more visible event for Newburgh.

Second, she commented that the School District has been talking about closing two city schools within its system. She does not know if the district has changed its course of direction or not. But our city schools have already been closed in the past, and we have bussed City of Newburgh children to surrounding areas. She pointed out that Horizons-on-the-Hudson School is one of the schools being considered by the district. Royal stated that we need that community school here. She urged the residents to attend school board meetings, or write and send letters of support to keep that school open.

Karen Mejia thanked the council for its service. She commented about the Board of Education situation. Budget discussions are taking place within the school board. We know that these are difficult financial times for everyone, down from the Federal Government to each one of our households. She said it is crucial for the council, as the elected body of our city, to have a heart to heart discussion with the Board of Education in terms of how they are

managing all of their assets that lie within the City limits. We talk about revitalization in the city. But it is very hard to engage new families in the area when we are closing down all of our elementary schools. That is what first attracted her to Newburgh. If we start to close down all of our city schools, then new and existing parents are not going to be able to sustain and live here in the City of Newburgh.

There being no one else wishing to comment, this portion of the meeting was closed.

FURTHER COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilwoman Angelo pointed out that she received a call from Freihoffer's Texas Corporate Office. The company is planning to come to Newburgh for the Fourth of July celebration and deliver 2000 loaves of bread to families. Second, she read the prospective lineup of the Memorial Day Parade. The parade is on May 27th @ 10:00 AM. She is still looking for people to participate. She has applications available. Third, she mentioned the possibility of a Soap Box Derby down Broadway. There may be a room available at the Armory that they could use to build the soap boxes.

Next, she commented that there is a lot of new graffiti in front of the metal doors at the Department of Motor Vehicle building. Angelo stated that she does not know how we can cope with it. Last, she mentioned that she will be meeting with Trestle, Inc to discuss the planning of the San Gennaro Feast for September, right after the big waterfront festival. Angelo state that we should never complain that there is nothing to do in Newburgh. We have a lot of good thing going on.

Councilman Brown thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated that he is looking forward to see everyone at the next one.

Councilman Dillard reminded everyone of the City's last Gun Buyback Program, which is scheduled for Saturday March 16th @ Street Rock Ministry, 60 Dubois Street near the hospital. On behalf of the City of Newburgh, he thanked the Greater Newburgh Partnership for sponsoring the gun buyback program.

Councilwoman Lee stated that she did receive the email from Karen Mejia. She commended Mejia for spearheading the initiative to save our city schools. Lee further commented that she would in fact be sending out a letter. Lee stated if anyone would like a copy of the email then they should contact her.

Second, she stated that she remembered waking up on March 7th and thinking about what have we accomplished, and what changes we have made in relation to the death of Michael Lembhard. She pointed out that even though the public does not know what transpired, she mentioned that she did have it out with the union. She feels that many union members do not have to tell their children to carry a tie in their pocket. And they do not have to tell their Black sons to be careful and not to walk down certain streets. Lee stated that once there was some mutual understanding of each other, then both parties were able to move forward, at least as professionals.

Lee clarified that she could only comment on the way that *she* would like to move forward. She stated that the rest of the council members would have to make their own comments. She still feels that policies need to be investigated, as she is still unwilling to accept the DA's determination that the shooting was justified. We have a long way to go and it is not going to happen overnight. Also she mentioned that the Community Police Advisory Board needs to operate without police involvement on the advisory board. It needs to be community residents who are bringing information back to the community. Lee commented that although the police officers on that board are very nice, there are a few people who do not feel comfortable engaging in a *shoot from the hip* discussion with the officers in attendance of those meetings. It is a community advisory board, and people should be able to openly discuss their concerns.

She stated to the Lembhard family that she can not even imagine what March 7th means to them, and what that date will forever do to their family. She told them that at least it marks the start of some serious change in looking at the way that the City operates. She is sad that they had to do it on the heels of the death of Michael Lembhard. In her closing remarks she wished everyone a good evening and a happy Easter holiday.

Mayor Kennedy addressed concerns about what the council is doing in the city. She reiterated that we are currently working on an audit/investigation of all of our policies and practices within the police department. Also there are efforts to do more community policing. She pointed out that Councilman Dillard is working on getting more people in jobs. He is trying to get people employed on the bridge projects. Also he is working with the various unions to provide jobs. Kennedy pointed out that one organization that will be opening soon is the Call Center, which will provide a great number of entry-level jobs to individuals.

Kennedy remarked that she has been working on an idea with another organization, in which they would like to be able to show community movies on a wall on summer nights. This is an opportunity to provide some form of entertainment for our children. Another organization called Team Newburgh is really putting forth an effort to help people through their drug addiction and alcoholism. All of this drug paraphernalia that is sold should be done in a way that is not so easy for our children, and adults alike, to have access to them. We need to make it tough for people, because we are losing a lot of people to the process. She stated she would like Team Newburgh to make a presentation before the council soon.

Last, she commented that she attended a Civilian Veterans Dialogue event this past Sunday. It touched her heart and she would like to encourage more of this type of dialogue. It was a very powerful and honest discussion about some of the things our veterans are going through and the challenges they face. She encouraged more support of this effort. She is going to let us know of any upcoming sessions. She thanked everyone who is doing things to move this city forward.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

**KATRINA COTTEN
DEPUTY CITY CLERK**