

JOHNSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 14, 2025

City Council met in a stated session for the general transaction of business. Mayor Frank Janakovic called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

Mr. Britt offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Janakovic noted for the record that an Executive Session regarding personnel issues was held prior to the commencement of the May 8, 2025 meeting.

The following members of Council were present for roll call:

Mayor Frank Janakovic, Reverend Sylvia King, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Clark, Ms. Huchel, Mrs. Mock (7)

Arturo Martynuska, City Manager; Michael Capriotti, Assistant City Manager; Sara Williams, Executive Secretary; Aimee Willett, Esquire, Solicitor; Lavona Smith, HR Manager; John Rutledge, Community and Economic Development Director; Melissa Layton, Residential Development/Construction Coordinator; Carmen Truscello, Fleet Maintenance Director; Captain Dan Price; Chief Mark Britton; David Williams, Codes Enforcement Manager; Robert Statler, Fire Chief, and Tony Penna Jr., Recreation Director, were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Janakovic requested a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2025; Special Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2025; and Workshop Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2025.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Britt and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Ms. Huchel, Mrs. Mock, Reverend King, Mayor Janakovic,
Mr. Clark, Mr. Britt, Mr. Arnone (7).

Nays: None (0).

PROCLAMATIONS, AWARDS, HONORS, RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

Mayor Janakovic presented the following proclamation:

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a progressive, fatal neurogenic disease in which the person's brain loses connection with their muscles, slowing reducing the person's ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe.

Whereas, thousands of new ALS cases are reported every year, estimates show that every 90 minutes someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS. On average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from the time of diagnosis. The exact causes of ALS are unknown and there is no known cure for ALS. People who have served in the military are more likely to develop ALS and die from the disease than those with no history of military service. Securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and communication technologies is of vital importance to people living with ALS. Clinical trials play a pivotal role in the evaluating of new treatments and enhancing the quality of life and fostering assistive technologies for those living with ALS.

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with ALS, acknowledge the terrible impact this disease has on those individuals and their families and support research to eradicate this disease.

Now, Therefore, I, Mayor Frank J. Janakovic, Mayor of the City of Johnstown, and on behalf of City Council, mark this day as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Month.

Mayor Janakovic shared a personal note, expressing his admiration for local Johnstown figure, Pete Duranko, in his battle with ALS.

It was noted the Johnstown walk will be held July 26, 2025, 10:00 a.m. at UPJ. Donations will be accepted.

Chief Mark Britton and Captain Price honored two patrol officers, Officer LeFevre and Officer Allen, for their actions taken recently and read into the record the following proclamation:

On Sunday, March 30, 2025, approximately 2250 hours, Officer Lefever was on routine patrol in the Old Conemaugh Borough section of the City of Johnstown when he observed heavy smoke coming from a residence at 918 Steel Street. He noticed lights on the second floor and believed the residence could be occupied and immediately began knocking on the front door. During this time, Officer LeFevre radioed the Cambria County 911 Center and advised of a working fire and that somebody was trapped inside. Receiving no answer, Officer LeFevre began to breach the front door of the residence and upon entering the residence, called out numerous times for occupants. Officer LeFevre heard a female call for help and that she could not walk. Officer LeFevre ascended the steps to the second floor and made contact with the resident who was seated in a chair and stated she could not walk.

After speaking with the resident to obtain if there was anyone else inside, she stated no. Officer LeFevre and Officer Allen, who had arrived on scene, began to assist the elderly female from the second floor of the residence, out an exit door leading to the back yard of the area of the structure. The officers then waited for responding units from the Johnstown Fire Department, EMS from 7th Ward and West End Ambulance Service.

With that being said, Captain Price and I would like to personally commend your dedicated service to the residents of the City of Johnstown. You have demonstrated that you put your own lives aside to save the lives of another human being who most certainly would have lost her life if not for your actions. Your actions showed exceptional courage and bravery above the call of duty. This action placed both of you in extreme danger without the regard of your own safety.

For this selfless act, Captain Price and I are honored to present you with the highest award in the City of Johnstown Police Department the Medal of Valor for exceptional courage and bravery above and beyond the call of duty.

(Round of applause)

PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None.

REPORTS:

CITY MANAGER

Arturo Martynuska, City Manager, stated Chief Statler had announced his retirement, marking the end of a long and commendable career. He shared that he and Chief Statler had worked together for many years and recalled their first collaboration during the 1996 flood. He noted that the City would move forward with the process of filling the position in the usual manner. Due to the intense heat in the room and in the interest of brevity, he requested that councilmembers direct any questions to department heads instead of requiring them to repeat the contents of their previously submitted written reports.

Mr. Martynuska addressed a letter he received on Monday, March 31, from John Donnelly, following a meeting with the firm SCAPE the previous Friday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. He read the letter into the record as follows:

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Stated Meeting, continued

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Art, after careful consideration, it is not SCAPE and the client's best interest to continue our involvement in the Johnstown Main Street/ Central Park Project. Please consider the two proposals you have recently received from this office to be void and not intended for execution at this time. We are thrilled that this project throughout the City of Johnstown will be implemented for the benefit of its residents. It's been an honor to lead the vision and design a project. We will cheer you on from the sidelines and look forward to hearing of the project's successful completion. All my best, John Donnelly, Partner and Technical Principal.

Mr. Martynuska emphasized that his comments were not meant to criticize the firm and acknowledged that, although there had been differences of opinion, the working relationship had remained professional. He noted that he had been surprised by the letter, as he believed discussions were still ongoing.

He reiterated that the firm had acted professionally and that the situation had not involved serious conflict.

Mayor Janakovic noted appreciation to SCAPE for all work done in the past and in the future.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Frank Janakovic reported attending the Chamber of Commerce bimonthly luncheon meeting, which provided updates on city developments. He also attended the National Council on Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol event in Philadelphia on May 5, 2025 and May 7, 2025 which included 6,000 participants and 400 speakers. He emphasized the critical role of Medicare and Medicaid in supporting social service and mental health agencies, warning that service reductions could harm many individuals in need.

Mayor Janakovic also attended a ribbon cutting in Minersville alongside city officials and noted that Reverend King participated. He described the project as a successful neighborhood-driven effort made possible through grants and additional funding.

He reported attending the Business Hall of Fame dinner at the conference center on April 25 with honorees and various city administrators, as well as the State of the City event at Aces on April 24. He expressed hope that the event showcased achievements from the past, present, and future.

The Mayor noted his attendance at a fundraiser for Rock Out Child Abuse and highlighted the widespread importance of combating child abuse across communities.

CITY SOLICITOR

Aimee L. Willett, Esquire, City Solicitor, introduced herself and reported that she had been working with the City Manager to become acclimated with City operations, reviewing meeting minutes from the past few years, and familiarizing herself with ordinances in the City code. She reported receiving a call from Attorney John Messina on behalf of Stackhouse Park regarding a previously submitted state grant application which apparently been awarded and was intended for the purchase of a piece of equipment for the park. She noted that to access the funds, a signature from the City Solicitor was required. She had not yet received the necessary paperwork but would coordinate with the City Manager to review the documentation and provide an update at the next month's meeting.

The City Manager responded by stating that the City had previously voted to support the Stackhouse Park grant application, and the current request was simply the final step to confirm that support and provide the necessary proof for the awarded grant.

Mayor Janakovic added that the City has ownership of Stackhouse Park, including a park ranger, were handled independently at no cost to the City.

COUNCIL UPDATES/NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISONS

Councilman Clark reported He stated he had been less active in recent weeks due to the busiest time of year at his businesses and apologized to council for his limited involvement. However, he noted that he had taken two significant actions. First, he organized a private meeting with downtown business owners, which was held at Flood City Cafe with support from the City Manager. Topics discussed included the Central Park project and the farmers market. He announced that another downtown business meeting had already been scheduled and expressed plans to expand the meetings to include any interested business within the City of Johnstown. These meetings would be held monthly and could involve council members, the City Manager, or simply serve as open discussions. He also thanked the City Manager for relocating the farmers market back to Main Street until construction begins in the park. Additionally, he shared that he held his first listening tour to hear neighborhood-specific concerns and would hold the next session on Saturday, May 17, at 5:00 p.m. at the Russell House in Moxham.

Councilman Charles Arnone provided his report stating that operations at the Water Authority were proceeding well, with the sewer project at 71 percent completion and a goal of reaching 75 percent by year-end. He reported that lead line replacement was progressing smoothly, beginning in Westmont due to its ease and moving into Dale, with no cost to homeowners. The federally mandated project had a 10-year completion timeline. As the Housing Authority representative, he shared that construction at Prospect was in the final stages, with residents beginning to move in. Of those originally living there, only about one-third returned, while others found alternative accommodations. The units were now open through the voucher system, and 20 Section 8 vouchers had been offered last month. The Choice Neighborhood planning process included upcoming site tours of successful programs in Pennsylvania and hiring resident ambassadors to promote and coordinate outreach. He thanked Vision Together and volunteers for planting dwarf fruit trees in Solomon and Coopersdale on May 3, with the possibility of future plantings depending on success. He also informed council of a new designated mailbox for the proper disposal of U.S. flags at the American Legion, with plans to add a drop-off container at City Hall.

Councilwoman Mock noted that AmeriServ already a disposal box available. Councilman Arnone acknowledged the existing box and stated another could not yet be added, but the current locations were in place.

Mayor Janakovic asked whether an ordinance or resolution had been passed concerning street work by the water and gas companies to avoid repeated excavation. Councilman Arnone confirmed that an ordinance had been passed several months earlier and explained that the water authority and gas company were now coordinating to complete line replacements simultaneously, reducing disruption. He added that it had taken nearly six months to negotiate the agreement.

Councilman Clark noted that coordination applied within a specific distance threshold.

Councilman Arnone further explained that the gas company had provided written confirmation that streets would be repaved curb to curb following the work. Current patchwork was temporary, with full resurfacing planned afterward. He cited Roxbury's Worth Street as an example, where curbs and pavement had been fully redone.

Mayor Janakovic asked whether the City or neighborhoods received advance notice of such work.

Councilman Clark responded that the gas company typically provided 30-day advance notices and distributed door hangers shortly before work began, requesting vehicle relocation. He noted they had been very accommodating.

Mr. Martynuska added that the City received notification whenever a company intended to close a street.

Mrs. Mock reported that six apple trees were planted at the Laurel Avenue Community Garden, made possible through support from Vision and the Community Foundation. She acknowledged the assistance of volunteers from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, who worked effectively and have been regularly utilized. She reported that the West End Improvement Group held its treasure sale fundraiser over the past weekend, one of its two main annual fundraisers, and confirmed it was successful. She announced that a basket party would take place in November. Planning continued for the Neighborhood Opportunity Group grant from the City, with all elements expected to be completed by June. The initiative would enhance the West End main area around Fairfield, Strayer, and Harold Avenue. Flower boxes would be installed soon. Although located in Lower Yoder, the Haws Pike Native Garden had been maintained by the group for approximately 15 years. She shared plans to install a welcome to Johnstown sign near the garden, designed with a black silhouette of trees. A similar sign existed in Cambria City, and another in Brownstown was partially funded by the same individual contributing to this project. She was coordinating with the Pennsylvania United Bricklayers Association, whose apprentice would handle the brickwork, with donated bricks and support from various volunteers for excavation and footer installation. She emphasized that the West End projects reflected successful collaboration across multiple organizations and individuals.

Mayor Janakovic noted that trees had already been planted from Sheetz to the former Johnstown Wire Mill site and viewed this as continued progress. He expressed concern about the condition of the area near Roosevelt Place Boulevard and Washington Street, particularly the overgrown weeds and deteriorated wall. He hoped someone would adopt and maintain the space, which he described as an eyesore, especially visible to drivers stopped at the traffic light.

Reverend Sylvia King began her report by commending the West End group for swiftly responding to a vandalism incident at Hefley Springs. Councilwoman Mock explained that someone had spray-painted an obscenity involving President Trump in large red letters at the local landmark and monument. She emphasized the community significance of the spring and described how the

group went to Bantly's, gathered supplies, scrubbed the site, and posted photos online out of frustration. A local power washing business owner volunteered to finish cleaning the monument. She contacted a PennDOT representative, who escalated the issue internally. Although surveillance was suggested, she noted technical challenges such as the lack of infrastructure for cameras. She hoped the vandal would not go unpunished.

Deputy Mayor King introduced the Cambria Somerset Community Health Survey, available in paper form and online, and encouraged residents to complete it to aid the City's comprehensive planning. She shared participation in the Keystone America 250 initiative, where she read to school children about Pennsylvania history, noting he learned that crayons are manufactured in Easton.

She attended the Women's Showcase at the Bottle Works honoring 12 women, and promoted the monthly resource fair at the Soup Kitchen, held every third Thursday at 1:00 PM, which facilitates both community and inter-agency awareness.

She noted her attendance the State of the Cities address at Aces, praising Mayor Janakovic's PowerPoint presentation. She also participated in the Johnstown High School Empty Bowls fundraiser, a Faith Leaders meeting with Vision, tree planting efforts, a tea in Moxham, the Roxbury Community Group meeting, the Minersville ribbon cutting, the Hornerstown community meeting, the National Day of Prayer, and the ribbon cutting for the new Cambria House, formerly Mary and Martha House. She reported that out of the City's 15 neighborhoods, only four had not completed or were not currently engaged in a community project supported by \$10,000 in ARPA funds. She thanked Councilmember Mock and Mr. Penna for their support and collaboration in the initiative.

Mayor Janakovic added that he also attended the ribbon cutting at the conference center and thanked CTC and the Pasquerillas for their contributions to the facility.

Deputy Mayor King encouraged everyone to visit the renovated conference center, noting significant improvements throughout, including the restrooms.

Councilwoman Huchel reported that she had attended many of the same events as other council members and praised the collective council effort in community engagement. She highlighted the importance of the Minersville ribbon cutting, where DCNR's presence signaled state-level recognition. In her

community walk and talks, she received substantial feedback, particularly from residents in Prospect who expressed interest in the Side Lot program.

She supported Councilman Clark's downtown business owners meeting and encouraged more in-person engagement. She met with ABANA, a local metalworking company, and Favor, a peer counseling group on Fairfield Avenue, to explore collaboration opportunities. She commended the fire department and Mr. Dave Williams for their joint effort on code enforcement and for containing a major fire on Railroad Street. She announced a cultural event featuring an African Dance Troupe from Pittsburgh at Gazebo Park on June 1. She thanked Mr. Martynuska for reading the SCAPE letter and reiterated disappointment over the City's departure from the original design plan, which she said betrayed community expectations and prompted SCAPE's disassociation.

Mayor Janakovic noted that Cindy Dunn, director of DCNR, had become a supporter of Johnstown, partly due to family ties in the area, and emphasized the importance of maintaining that relationship for more than just funding opportunities.

Mr. Martynuska echoed praise for the fire department and codes team, reporting that they had already processed 265 violations with less than one-third of the City surveyed. While not all violations would escalate to legal proceedings, many were being addressed in-house. He noted that him and a colleague are actively developing strategies to reduce the backlog. He also promoted a drone program vendor showcase at the conference center, part of a national medical supply delivery initiative launching in June. The program would deliver AEDs, tourniquets, EpiPens, and Narcan within city limits, in coordination with Conemaugh Hospital. Police and fire departments would receive related training, and new drone pilot certifications were underway within the City.

Councilwoman Mock emphasized the urgency of resolving the code enforcement backlog. She requested an update before the next meeting and suggested hiring a temporary worker to expedite processing.

The Mayor expressed concerns about waiting until June for action and called for interim updates and solutions to manage the code backlog more effectively.

Mr. Martynuska added that earlier that day the City had held what was believed to be its first-ever meeting with the county tax assessment office, initiated by Mr. Bob Eyer. They discussed properties for potential appraisal and received a list

of all nonprofits in the City. Mayor commented that nonprofits with rental income or vacant areas could be taxable.

PETITIONS

None.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL READ AND ADOPTION

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 5057, PASSED FINALLY FEBRUARY 24, 2010,
TO ADDRESS THE USE OF CITY-OWNED VEHICLES BY CITY
EMPLOYEES

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock

Mr. Martynuska explained that the purpose was to provide more latitude in decision-making, particularly in areas that might require increased restrictions. He explained that the current resolution limited flexibility in policy development, which affected considerations such as cost savings and insurance exposure. Revising the resolution would allow for improved administrative control.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Clark, Mayor Janakovic,
Reverend King, Mrs. Mock Ms. Huchel (7).

Nays: None (0).

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 105720

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH
BOTTLEWORKS ETHNIC ARTS CENTER

Mrs. Mock made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone.

Mr. Martynuska explained that supporting Bottle Works was a clear and easy decision due to their successful grant acquisition and alignment with the City's goal to reinvigorate cultural and artistic engagement. He emphasized the minimal financial commitment of \$2,500 annually for four years and

highlighted the value of in-kind support, such as his participation on a board or the use of public works resources. He affirmed Bottle Works as a strong partner and noted that additional arts-related projects were in development.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Britt, Mr. Clark, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King,
Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone (7).

Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 105721

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN,
CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EXECUTE
AN AGREEMENT WITH STRAW CONSTRUCTION CO; INC.
AWARDING CONTRACT 2025-02 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE
STATION 2 FIRE HALL DRIVE-WAY APRON PROJECT

Mrs. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock.

Mr. Martynuska explained that the project involved replacing the apron in front of the doors at Station 2 on Fairfield, which had deteriorated and sunk to the extent that the center bay could no longer be used for emergency response due to the risk of damaging fire engines. Three bids were solicited and received, and the lowest bid was selected. Even with a potential change order or cost overrun, the chosen bid remained less expensive than the other two.

Mr. Martynuska further clarified the bid process in response to Councilman Clark's question. He stated bid solicitations were publicly advertised, then re-advertised three days later, with a bid opening occurring ten days after the initial posting. He acknowledged that the legal language in bid documentation could be confusing but emphasized that there was a period for questions or comments before submission. The city typically awarded the contract to the lowest bidder unless there was a compelling reason not to.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Clark, Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock
Mr. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt (7).

Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 105722

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS AND TAKE OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY IN THE PURCHASE OF A USED CHEVROLET SUBURBAN.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock.

Mr. Martynuska stated the newly acquired vehicle would be used to transport city staff or others within the City or to external destinations. He noted that during a recent trip to Washington, D.C., staff traveled in separate vehicles, leading to multiple cost submissions for mileage and fuel. The new vehicle, which seats six comfortably, would consolidate such travel into one vehicle. He added that earlier in the day, parking staff had required two vehicles to be moved around the City, which the new vehicle would eliminate. He commended the City fleet director for finding the vehicle, which was in excellent condition. Mr. Martynuska noted that the savings would be substantial.

Ms. Huchel clarified that the purchase did not impact the general fund, as it was funded using savings realized from a previous contract.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel,
Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Clark (7).
Nays: None (0).

Resolution No.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENACT THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL CHANGES.

Mrs. Mock made a motion to withdraw the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clark and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Reverend King, Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt,
Mr. Clark, Mayor Janakovic (7).
Nays: None (0).

Resolution No. 105723

A RESOLUTION, OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (HOME) PROGRAMS FY 2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN – SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THE HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN – SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD).

Mr. Clark made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnone.

It was clarified that the initiative in question was a one-time effort specifically intended to benefit the homeless population and Mayor Janakovic stated it had no relation to the HUD study for Coopersdale, emphasizing that they were two separate entities.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mrs. Mock, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Britt, Mr. Clark,
Mayor Janakovic, Reverend King (7).
Nays: None (0).

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Clark asked the City Manager for an update on when council meetings would return to television and live streaming.

Mr. Martynuska responded that the 90-day period requested by Breezeline to establish a new signal pathway was nearing completion. Breezeline needed to reroute the feed from the former Southmont Boulevard location to a new site on top of the hill. He noted that he had scheduled a follow-up call in two weeks if no update was received. He Also mentioned that church groups were prepared to proceed and were seeking grant funding to support their involvement in the project. There was further discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Deputy Mayor King raised concern about the code enforcement department's capacity, stating that having only two staff members handle 260 violations was unmanageable. She noted that this bottleneck was now creating further delays across departments.

Mr. Capriotti responded that the violations had accumulated over a month and a half, and that internal coordination was underway with Mr. Williams and Mr. Martynuska to develop a system to process violations as they arrived rather than after they had piled up. He stated 160 of the 260 violations had been addressed so far.

Deputy Mayor King then shifted the discussion to the theft of political signs from private property, calling it theft rather than a political issue. She confirmed that the City garage did not have the missing signs. There was further discussion regarding the matter.

There was discussion regarding the lead supervisor course being held on May 20, 2025, and the five owner-occupied applications currently under review. Ms. Layton explained that these applications dated back to 2020 and required reassessment. She was personally inspecting each property, obtaining new contractor bids, and ensuring updated risk assessments and radon tests were completed. She anticipated that funding would be exhausted after processing the five cases unless new funding became available in the next cycle.

Mayor Janakovic thanked Bob Statler for his many years of service to the City. He recognized Statler's willingness to assume responsibilities beyond his role, including serving as interim city manager.

(Round of applause)

PUBLIC COMMENT: NON-AGENDA ITEM

Bill McKinney expressed appreciation to Chief Statler and the fire department, recounting their swift and effective response to a fire on Railroad Street. He commended the crew for continuing cleanup efforts while still addressing active flames, and praised all city workers involved. He then revisited a topic from a recent workshop, thanking Mr. Capriotti and Mr. Martynuska for their efforts under a tight timeline and acknowledging City Council's vision in bringing SCAPE to Johnstown to design a plan that reflected community feedback. He compared the decision to that of the Sunnehanna board over a century ago, when they brought in A.W. Tillinghast to design a golf course

that became a globally recognized landmark. McKinney called the SCAPE design another civic gem and strongly opposed a proposed change involving the addition of a circle and walkways. He argued that it significantly altered the park's design and disregarded extensive community input. He likened the change to placing an outhouse in the middle of a world-class golf course fairway and urged Council to reconsider and remove the added features from the plan.

Mayor Janakovic reminded the Council and public that Saturday May 24, 2025 the Taste and Tour event will be held in the City. He noted that it is a large attraction in Johnstown and gives the public more exposure to the Council's efforts downtown.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7:20 p.m.

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.