

JOHNSTOWN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, October 11, 2025

City Council met in a stated session for the special council transaction of business. Reverent King called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Reverend King offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The following members of Council were present for roll call:

Reverend King, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Clark, Ms. Huchel, Mrs. Mock (5).

Amiee Willett, Esquire, Solicitor; and Arturo Martynuska, City Manager, were also in attendance.

Ms. Willett announced an Executive Session occurred after the last City Council meeting to discuss pending litigation and personnel matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Mr. John DeBartola, 1197 Bedford Street, discussed his meeting with Mr. Martynuska to file a complaint regarding the agenda for the meeting, which did not have a public comment for non-Agenda items section listed. He questioned the reason for a Saturday meeting and why the resolution on the agenda was not voted on during the prior Wednesday's meeting when the resolution needed to be voted on by the following Monday. He questioned whether an oversight had occurred.

Mr. Clark made a motion to amend the agenda to reflect a five-minute public comment on agenda items at the beginning of the meeting and a three-minute public comment on non-agenda items at the end of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mock.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Clark, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock (5).

Nays: (0)

AGENDA ITEMS:

Resolution No. 10723

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REQUESTS A MAIN STREET MATTERS (MSM) GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,500 FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR THE USE OF FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

Mr. Arnone made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huchel.

Mr. Martynuska explained the information regarding the grant was misunderstood, and the City originally thought the resolution was not due until November. When it was determined the resolution was due by the following Monday, a special meeting was called.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Ms. Huchel, Mr. Arnone, Mr. Clark, Reverend King, Mrs. Mock (5).

Nays: (0).

PUBLIC COMMENT – NON-AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

John DeBartola 1197 Bedford Street, stated dissatisfaction that City Council had not appointed any Board members in 2025, despite an open position on the Housing Authority. He explained he was standing in the corner, instead of at the podium, because he was live reporting the meeting and there was a sign telling him where to stand. He expressed frustration at what occurred at the meeting on October 8, 2025. He also commented on various issues, including paying for Nina Ndichu's visa, mismanagement of JAHA funds, and Hope 4 Johnstown. He questioned if City Council was being transparent or hiding secrets. He expressed concern regarding increased security in the City, including potential metal detectors at City Hall and the Public Safety Building.

Mrs. Mock addressed Mr. DeBartola's questions regarding Nina Ndichu and JAHA funds. She explained City Council does not hire individuals other than the City Manager. The payment for Ms. Ndichu's visa was a condition of her employment contract as negotiated by the person who was the City Manager at that time. Regarding JAHA funds, she stated the City Finance Director had discovered the issue when executing checks and balances with the ARPA. She noted the issue was dealt with appropriately through a Treasury Department procedure and was not swept under the rug.

RECESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 10:18 a.m.