

MINUTES FOR BUSINESS MEETING APRIL 1, 2020

The Meeting held via teleconference at South Amboy City Hall, 140 North Broadway, South Amboy, New Jersey, was called to order by Council President Gross at 6:00 P.M. The City Clerk read the Opening Prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Councilwoman Dato, Councilman McLaughlin, Councilman Reilly, Councilwoman Noble, and Council President Gross.

ALSO PRESENT: Fred A. Henry, Mayor, Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Mark Rasimowicz, City Engineer, Francis Womack, Director of Law, and Municipal Clerk Deborah Brooks

Council President Gross read the notice requirements statement.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 20-109 **APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of South Amboy does hereby receive and file the bills list dated March 26, 2020, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bills list be appended to the official minutes.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-109 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-110 **APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF MINUTES**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of South Amboy does hereby approve and release the Council Minutes of the March 18, 2020 Council Meeting and the March 25, 2020 Special Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-110 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, Noble, Reilly (abstaining from March 18, 2020), Gross **Nays:** McLaughlin (abstaining from March 18, 2020)

RESOLUTION NO. 20-111

RESOLUTION DEDICATION BY RIDER, STORM RECOVERY RESERVE

WHEREAS, NJS 40A:4-62.1 (2014) et seq. provides for unexpended balances budgeted annually for storm recovery to be lapsed into the Storm Recovery Reserve Trust Fund by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of South Amboy passed Resolution 168-2018 on November 18, 2018 to establish the Storm Recovery Reserve Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, funds in the reserve may be used for any purpose related to storm recovery, including but not limited to snow, ice and debris removal.

WHEREAS, in addition, funds in the reserve may be used for any purpose necessary to protect the safety, security, health, and welfare of its citizens from damages caused by an emergency declared by the President of the United States or the Governor. Any reimbursement of these expenditures shall be deposited back into the reserve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Clerk of the City of South Amboy is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution with to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-111 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

DISCUSSION:

- a.) Discuss a Resolution Certifying First Aid LOSAP for 2019 – approved for next agenda
- b.) Discuss a Resolution Certifying Fire Dept. LOSAP for 2019 – approved for next agenda
- c.) Discuss letter from DEP regarding Stormwater permit program notifications – to be forwarded to the City Engineer
- d.) Discuss the 2020 Budget – after lengthy discussion the Council will move forward for adoption on the April 15th agenda.

COMMENTS

Ms. Dato: Reminded everyone to complete the census – You count so be counted! Noted everyone is a little bit frazzled right now so let’s safely take care of our neighbors, elderly and try and support our local restaurants.

Ms. Noble: Thanked the first responders and reported she was getting positive feedback from residents regarding the City keeping everyone informed and up to date.

Mr. Reilly: Thanked the food banks for their continued effort and noted the FSA was assisting them in their efforts. Thanked Amy McLaughlin for her “Pictures from the Porch” fundraising charity which gave the FSA \$4000. The FSA in turn was able to help the food banks. Requested Ms. Brooks send him his portion of the minutes for review and approval before they are sent out to the public. Asked the Mayor to look into the waiving of late fees for sewer and tax due to the current economic impact of the corona virus. The Mayor agreed and will look into what can be done.

Mr. McLaughlin: Noted he had voted no to the minutes because he felt they were inaccurate, thanked OEM Dir. Herdman, Chief LaVigne and all the first responders for their continued hard work and noted that this pandemic was going to have a lasting hard economic impact on the City.

Mr. Gross: Reported there are 20 cases of the virus in the City, gave a “hats off” to Mrs. McLaughlin for her charitable work, and complemented all the first responders for their excellent work.

Mayor Henry: Thanked everyone for working to get the budget adopted and thanked the citizens for cooperating with the Shelter in Place rules. He also thanked all the first responders for their good work.

Mr. Skarzynski: Noted that the City was doing their best to get information out to the public every day and would continue keeping them informed. He thanked the Mr. Herdman, Fire Chief O’Connor, Mr. Walczak and Mr. Moffa for working together to keep our DPW workers and employees safe. Noted that he and Mr. Balka would be available to answer any further question any council member may have regarding the budget.

Mr. Rasimowicz noted there will be two emergency sanitary sewer and drainage repair invoices for approval on the next agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING AND GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 20-112

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) (1-9) permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, the Council is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of, action on, and reading of the minutes of Closed Session of April 1, 2020.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is as follows:

Personnel – Police Department
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matters will be made public when the matters are concluded or as soon thereafter as it is deemed to be in the public interest to do so.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOVED by: Mr. Gross of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-112 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm as the Council went into Executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks, RMC
City Clerk
Approved April 15, 2020