

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MAY 26, 2020

The Meeting held electronically at South Amboy City Hall, 140 North Broadway, South Amboy, New Jersey, was called to order by Council President Gross at 7:00 P.M. The City Clerk read the Opening Prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Fred A. Henry, Mayor, Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Francis Womack, Director of Law, OEM Director Mark Herdman, City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz, Chief LaVigne and Ofc. Noble

Clerk Brooks read the Notice of Publication Certification and noted this meeting was being held electronically because of the current Covid19 Virus Pandemic. The public has been notified of the telephone number to call to access the teleconferenced meeting.

DISCUSSION: Police personnel – Grievance (Carried from the May 6, 2020 meeting)

After lengthy discussion, on motion of Ms. Dato, seconded by Mr. Reilly, the Council voted to uphold and affirm the denial of Ofc. Noble’s grievance by the Business Administrator. Ayes: Dato, Reilly, Gross, Nays: McLaughlin, Abstain: Noble

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-227
APPROVING PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of South Amboy does hereby receive and approve the payment of the bill list dated May 14, 2020, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-227 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-228
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 May 6, 2020 Business Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-228 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The following items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be acted upon in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in the normal sequence of the Agenda.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution

#20-229 through #20-237 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

NO. 20-229 EXEMPT VETERAN – MOGLIA

NO. 20-230 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MODIFICATION #2 TO THE FEDERAL AID AGREEMENT FOR SOUTH AMBOY INTERMODAL CENTER, REMEDIATION OF FORMER CONRAIL AND SPECTRASERVE PROPERTIES

NO. 20-231 AUTHORIZATION FOR PURCHASE OF INTERCEPTOR SUV AND FORD F-250 SUPERCAB TRUCK FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

NO. 20-232 TAX REFUND – JACKSON

NO. 20-233 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NJDOT FOR THE FELTUS STREET, PHASE II ROADWAY AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

NO. 20-234 AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT FOR SHARED SERVICES WITH WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP FOR OPIOID OVERDOSE RECOVERY PROGRAM

NO. 20-235 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CH. 159, P.L. 148) – PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REVENUES OFFSET BY APPROPRIATIONS

NO. 20-236 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY SUPPORTING THE ENACTMENT OF ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 3971 AND SENATE BILL NO. 2475 TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF CORONA VIRUS RELIEF BONDS BY MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES

NO. 20-237 A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH AMBOY CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY AND THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX FOR RECEIPT OF CARES ACT FUNDS

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE 05-2020

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$3,804,314.00 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,047,292.00 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, that Ordinance #05-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the June 17, 2020 meeting.

SECONDED by: Mr. McLaughlin, **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

COMMENTS:

Ms. Noble: Be safe and be well.

Ms. Dato:

- Congratulated Council President Gross for doing such a good job in difficult circumstances
- Reminded everyone to complete the 2020 Census
- Reminded everyone the Primary election was moved to July 7th and will be by mail in ballot.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked 1st Presbyterian Church Food Pantry for their outstanding work, and thanked the FOSA for their continued success in fund raising.
- Sent condolences to the families of Gary Gathas, Keith Mannion, and Joe Szaro.
- Asked about the status of the re-opening plan for the City Hall. BA Skarzynski, Ms. Kudelka, Health Officer Lloyd and Clerk Brooks are putting together a plan consisting of the requirements of masks, installation of sanitizer station, plexiglass barriers, etc. They are waiting on guidance from the Governor to finalize.
- Inquires as to whether or not anyone had information on the new owner of Woodmont. BA Skarzynski will follow up.
- Was informed that the first aid plan was still in progress.
- Requested the meeting agendas be put on Facebook as early as possible
- Inquired about the status of the 140 and 218 George St. property maintenance violations
- Requested an amendment to the City Code addressing problems in electronic meetings which may arise and steps to immediately close the meeting.
- Received the status of posting Kurt Gorman on the Home Town Heroes page.
- Received confirmation that the 4 hour parking limitation on First street had been suspended and the signs will be removed.
- Requested the City adopt their own inspection processes for boarding houses.

President Gross:

- Proposed taking advantage of the State program which turns over the responsibility of boarding homes inspections to the local authority. He will send the information to the BA.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanked Mark Herdman, Chief LaVigne, Tim Walzack and Bob O'Connor for their continued good work during these difficult times.
- Asked if there was any timeline for the reopening of hair salons and other service businesses. The BA responded that they are waiting on the Governor.
- Inquired as to the status of the maintenance violations on the house at 4th and Potter and was informed that there had been summons issued but since the courts had been closed things had stalled. The courts are in the process of reopening so there should be some forward movement.
- Agreed with Mr. Reilly that moving forward with the next developer there should not be a PILOT program.
- Confirmed with BA Skarsynski that the proposed apartment project on Ridgeway and Raritan had been reduced from 6 to 4 units.

- Received the status of the local job hiring for the Manhattan Beach project from BA Skarzynski and requested Mr. SKarzynski reach out again to the builder to encourage them to keep communications open with local hiring groups.

Mr. Gross:

- Received a status update on the demolition of 131 Broadway, noting it was a disgrace that had been allowed to stand for much too long.
- Proposed our inspectors start using the state system for the inspections on boardinghouses.
- Reported he is waiting on word from the Governor regarding the opening of summer camps and public pools and believed something would be forthcoming in the near future.
- Thanked the First Aid, OEM, PD and FD for their continued good works and the St. Mary's and 1st Presbyterian churches and FSA for their efforts in keeping the food pantries up and running.
- Suggested the Director of Recreation begin a call-in well check program for the Senior Citizens of the City.
- Agree with Mr. Reilly and Mr. McLaughlin that it would be good to get a report from SARA regarding the new developer that had purchased Woodmont.
- Noted that the County would be handling the complaints regarding Cambridge Paving as he had a conflict of interest.
- Suggested that the City begin to provide shirts with the City's logo as well as photo ID's on lanyards for the inspectors.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No comments.

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 20-238

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 May 26, 2020.
2. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is as follows:

Litigation:

- Venetian/Sewage Status
- 131 S. Broadway demolition

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: Ms. Dato, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution 20-238 is hereby adopted and the public session of the meeting is adjourned.
SECONDED by: Mr. McLaughlin, **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved June 17, 2020