

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 17, 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, City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz

Council President 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.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 20-243
ESTIMATED TAX BILLS – THIRD QUARTER 2020

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey has determined that there will be insufficient cash flow to support operations in late July 2020 unless third quarter revenue is received on time, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed and computed an estimated tax levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes that:

- 1 The Tax Collector is directed to prepare, and issue estimated tax bills for the Municipality of the City of South Amboy for the third quarter 2020, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 54: 4-66.2 et seq.
2. The entire tax levy for 2020 is hereby set at \$25,512,884.
3. The tax collector takes additional steps necessary to immediately implement this Resolution.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-243 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-244
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 June 11, 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. 20-244 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-245
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 26, 2020 Business Meeting and the June 3, 2020 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-245 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. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution #20-246 through #20-248 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor with President Gross abstaining from Resolution No. 20-246.

NO. 20-246 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMPOWER RETIREMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYER 457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY

NO. 20-247 AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND FOR 381 HIGHLAND ST. BA-19-1021

NO. 20-248 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITHOUT PUBLIC ADVERTISING DUE TO AN EMERGENCY SEWER MAIN REPAIR ON MAIN ST. AND RARITAN ST.

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 06-2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 1036 ENTITLED "PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY" IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY – 350 MAIN ST. - SMITH

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, that Ordinance #06-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 15, 2020 meeting. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble, **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY SOUTH AMBOY ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS IN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, that Ordinance #07-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 15, 2020 meeting.

SECONDED by: Ms. Dato, **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE BROADWAY/MAIN STREET REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #08-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 15, 2020 meeting.

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

ADOPTION/SECOND 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.

OPEN PUBLIC – no public comment

CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #05-2020 is hereby adopted.

SECONDED by: Ms. Dato, **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

COMMENTS:

Ms. Dato:

- Reminded everyone to come out on Monday to support the restaurants as they begin their outdoor dining services. This is good for the restaurants and good for people to get outside. Thanked all the people at City Hall who worked on processing the applications.

Ms. Noble:

- Requested the City look into extending the outdoor dining hours past 8pm.
- Noted that the tennis courts are open.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked 1st Presbyterian, FOSA, and Rocky Kusic at St. Mary’s for their continued great efforts with the food pantries.
- Reported last Saturday AOH, FOSA had a great event and distributed 110 meals to seniors.
- Received a no change in status update regarding the garage on First street.
- Received an in-progress status for the illegal Pallet Business, stressing this has been going on for too long.
- Received information on the house next to the playground on Rosewell – it was bank owned and DPW was doing the maintenance and a lien will be placed.
- Congratulated the graduating seniors.

- Sent condolences to the family of Chief Lavigne on the passing of his father.
- Received confirmation that there will be a meeting Monday between the BA and First Aid and the Fire Department regarding upcoming plans
- Received confirmation that there was no change in status in regards to the purchasing new vehicles for 1st Aid.
- Received confirmation that Jay Elliot is working on the logistics of the State process of inspections for boarding houses.
- Stated he was still interested in moving forward with the sewer bill relief. Attorney Womack will reach out and see what can be done.
- Stated he was still waiting on a draft of the Vaping Ordinance. Attorney Womack will follow up.
- Confirmed there was no movement on the Wische Property.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Sent condolences to Chief LaVigne's family.
- Thanked front line workers for their continued efforts.
- Congratulated the Police Department for apprehending a murder suspect.
- Received confirmation that addressing the status of the dilapidated houses on Fourth street was in the queue.
- Received confirmation that progress was being made with the Cambridge Paving situation.
- Received an update from the Clerk on the Vote By Mail process.
- Received and update from BA Skarzynski on the status of the Manhattan Beach project.
- Congratulated former resident Officer Bobby Kelly on his part in a life saving incident in Marlboro.
- Received information that the removal of parking restrictions in the 200 block of Second Street was still in progress, the PD must complete a study and then an Ordinance must be adopted to update the City Code.
- Requested BA Skarzynski follow up with Mr. Kaplan who is having issues with getting his inspection and permits.

Pres. Gross:

- Thanked Jay Elliot, Jason Valetutto, Tom Kelly and BA Skarzynski for all their hard work in getting the restaurants permitted for the new outdoor dining regulations.
- Reported John Bartlinski was currently working on the Cambridge Paving situation, and has put them on notice for several violations. Additionally, Mr. Bartlinski will look into the truck parking situation across the way from Cambridge Paving.

Mayor Henry:

- Sent his condolences to Chief LaVigne's family.
- Thanked the Police Department for their capture of the suspect in the local murder.
- Noted the AOH, FOSA event for the senior meal delivery had been a great success.
- Reported the American Legion had rescheduled the flag retirement to July 9th , 7pm at the fisherman's lot.
- Congratulated all graduating seniors and noted there will be banners with photos of seniors put up around the City.
- Reported there is a blood drive scheduled at the YMCA for Monday, please call to pre-register.
- Noted that on Monday the Library will begin curbside pick up services and it was nice to see a small movement back to normality.
- Invited all businesses in the City to join the Rotary.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Thanked the Council for acknowledging his work on the outdoor dining permits and thanked all Jay Elliot, Tom Kelly, Jason Valetutto and Clerk Brooks for their group effort to produce the permits in a timely manner.

Mr. Womack:

- Requested a closed session to update the Council on the Venetian legislation.

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Reported that roadwork on various projects such as Stevens Ave., Main and Broadway, John T. O'Leary Blvd. and the Mechanicsville Section of George St. are all progressing and make sure to drive slowly around construction areas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

William Demasi, 146 John St.

- Reported concern with speeding and loud cars at late hours of the night.
- Received an update from BA Skarzynski that the Rosewell market property is being foreclosed on and the apartments have been purchased but the new owners have not yet gone in front of the Planning Board.
- Wondered why the new lights were being installed on Augusta and not John St. BA Skarzynski informed him that the area was part of a state grant to improve pedestrian access on Broadway and streets nearest the train station. There will be ongoing projects to improve infrastructure.
- Discussed his concern with the traffic patterns and entrance/egress on Rosewell for the Manhattan Beach project.

Lisa Joseph, 76 Raritan Reach Rd.

- Thanked all 1st Aid responders, healthcare workers and front line workers for all their hard work. She was appreciative of how the City has united and worked together during this crisis.
- Expressed an interest in creating resident-only parking spots in the Fisherman's lot. The area is becoming so popular and filling so early that residents are having a hard time finding parking spots.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: Close of public session.

RESOLUTION 20-249

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 June 17, 2020.

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

Litigation: Demolition of Broadway property
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 20-249 is hereby adopted and the public session of the meeting is adjourned.

SECONDED by: Ms. Noble, **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved July 15, 2020