

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 19, 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 6:00 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 and Dan Balka, CFO.

The City Clerk 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.

GRIEVANCE: PBA

Mr. Skarzynski reported he had just spoken to Mr. Michael Bukosky, PBA Attorney and would have an answer to the grievance at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION:

- 4 HOUR PARKING ON FIRST AND SECOND STREETS. – Mr. Skarzynski reported the Police Department would be moving ahead with the necessary study as the first step in the removal of the signs. The Council recommended the Police Department take into account the upcoming changes in their current ticketing actions.
- PLANNING BOARD COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – No Council member volunteered to replace Mr. McLaughlin as the representative on the Planning Board.

DISCUSSION/RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION #20-257 (carried from July 15th meeting)

AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR SHARED SERVICES WITH WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-257 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-263

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 June 17, 2020 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-263 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-264

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 August 13, 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. 20-264 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-265

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY FROM FSG NEW JERSEY THROUGH THE KEYSTONE PURCHASING NETWORK

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-265 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: McLaughlin, Noble, Reilly, Gross Absent: Dato (technical difficulties)

RESOLUTION #20-266

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SECURITY SYSTEM FOR VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF NASPO MASTER AGREEMENT #MA152 WITH VERIZON

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-266 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: McLaughlin, Noble, Reilly, Gross Absent: Dato (technical difficulties)

RESOLUTION #20-267

GOVERNORS COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2020- JUNE 2025

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-267 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-268

RESOLUTION AWARDDING STATE CONTRACT #T3083 TO PURCHASE A LIVESCAN SYSTEM

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-268 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-269

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAILER AND BARRICADES

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-269 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-270

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR THE VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN 2020 – PM CONSTRUCTION

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-270 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-271

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE OF TWO E-ONE TYPHOON MODEL FS19JCO5 FIRE APPARATUS THROUGH THE HOUSTON GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL (“H-GAC”) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-271 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-272

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF REAL PROPERTY TAX BILL FOR BLOCK 74, LOT 24, HENRY ST.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-272 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-273

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF ACCUSCAN TO DIGITIZE CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-273 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-274

RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR 2017 PINE AVENUE PEDESTRIAN & ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-274 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor **E**

RESOLUTION #20-275

RESOLUTION APPROVING PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE 1220-33-032-002 RENEWAL FOR 2019-2020 (B SYMPOSIUM)

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-275 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

RESOLUTION #20-276

RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX REFUND - ULLAH

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-276 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

RESOLUTION #20-277

RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX REFUND – RODRIGUEZ (ELEVATED TITLE LLC)

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-277 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-278

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITHOUT PUBLIC ADVERTISING DUE TO AN EMERGENCY SEWER MAIN REPAIR ON JOHN ST.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-278 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-279

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS FOR 2020-2021 TERM

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-279 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION #20-280

RESOLUTION TAX REFUND - BOYCHUCK

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-280 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 9-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY AUTHORIZING THE GRANTING OF AN EASEMENT OVER A PORTION OF CITY PROPERTY LOCATED ON BLOCK 47, LOT 8.02, NEAR 141 NORTH BROADWAY, IN ORDER TO PERMIT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HANDICAP ACCESS RAMP

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, that Ordinance #9-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the September 16, 2020 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY LIMITING AND PROHIBITING THE SALE OF VAPING PRODUCTS AND E-CIGARETTES IN CERTAIN PLACES WITHIN THE B-1 GENERAL BUSINESS ZONE OF THE CITY

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, that Ordinance #10-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the September 16, 2020 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY LIMITING AND PROHIBITING THE SALE OF VAPING PRODUCTS AND E-CIGARETTES IN CERTAIN PLACES WITHIN THE B-2 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONE OF THE CITY

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, that Ordinance #11-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the September 16, 2020 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2020

LOAN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LOAN AND SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS 2020 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION, AS APPLICABLE, OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT WITH AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$1,550,000, THE COST OF SUCH IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT TO BE FINANCED THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF COUNTY-GUARANTEED CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2020 OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, that Ordinance #12-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the September 2, 2020 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Ms. Noble:

- Thanked all the First Responders and front line workers for their continued hard work during the pandemic.
- Gave a big thank you to DPW for the excellent work they did on the beach.

Ms. Dato:

- Sent condolences to the Coman family and was appreciative of all Michael Coman did for the community for so many years. Reminded everyone to come out for the Corn Hole tournament fundraiser this Sunday
- Reminded everyone to please donate money or time to the local food banks. Ms. Dato noted that the number of families in need was rising and the community needs to pitch in and continue to help.
- Reported that Governor Murphy passed an executive order which states the November general election will be held by mail in ballot. Every registered voter will receive a ballot. They can fill it out and return it via the US Mail, put it in one of several drop boxes located in the County or bring it to the Middle-High School polling location. Provisional and ADA voting will be available at the Middle-High School as it was for the primary.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Stated he hoped that the Manhattan Beach project developers would continue to reach out and hire local workers.
- Asked about the bid date for the Ferry Project and was informed by Mr. Skarzynski that it should go out to bid by the end of the year and that the hold up was the sign off from the United States Corps of Engineers.
- Received confirmation that the talks regarding the Jingoli property were continuing.
- Requested Mr. Skarzynski follow up on the utility pole issue at 93 Pupek Road.
- Received confirmation that cleanup had recently occurred on the Mocco property.
- Sent his condolences to the Coman family and urged everyone to come out to the fund raiser on Sunday.
- Thanked the emergency service and health workers for their continued good work.

Mr. Reilly:

- Sent his condolences for the death in President Gross' family.
- Thanked First Presbyterian Church (especially Mary), St. Mary's and the Friends of South Amboy for their continued efforts in keeping local families fed. The numbers of families in need are increasing. Please try and donate time or money. Food delivery days are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. He requested we put the information on the electronic board.
- Received confirmation conditions at the First St. Garage, pallet place and Rosewell St. are being worked on. Summons have been issued and processes must be followed. Mr. Reilly expressed dissatisfaction at the length of time it was taking to resolve these issues.
- Sent condolences to the Coman family, noting Mike was a wonderful volunteer fireman, served as Chief and was a training officer and an excellent role model. His heart goes out to the family – South Amboy has lost a good one.
- Confirmed with BA Skarzynski that there was no projected taxable income revenue for the Ferry project as it is a city owned project.
- Reported concerns with the proposed merger of Progressive and Enterprise into one building and wanted to insure the City was aware of the pride of house that each of the firehouses had and was concerned the history of the individuals house would be lost. After lengthy discussion in which the Mayor and BA reviewed several reasons why this consolidation was being considered- including needed building updates, age of houses (100 year old), ability to upgrade the houses, locker systems, safety systems and consolidating space, Mr. Reilly agreed to disagree with the need to consolidate.
- Reported that at a recent development meeting, the sale of the Woodmont property was hailed as a huge success for the taxpayers of South Amboy and wanted to make some corrections for the record: 1) The Perrone group purchased the property where Woodmont currently is located along with the old Ward products and Joe Juliano properties. Perrone also remediated the properties. 2) The site where the YMCA is located was not donated by Woodmont, Perrone donated the property. 3) The revenue that is derived from Woodmont includes a land tax credit which reduces the revenue from over \$400,000 that was reported down to the \$240,000 that the city actually receives. 4) The recent sale of the Woodmont property was valued at 43.6 million dollars. The value of the property is clearly tied to the favorable 30 year pilot that was given by the city. If the project were townhomes without a pilot, similar to Ryan Homes, or the rateables were tied to the recent sale of the property, the City of South Amboy would have realized a much larger return than what is currently being realized. 5) We need to be very conscious moving forward when we evaluate any future pilots. In addition to no money being directed to the schools, the current economic downturn may reduce funding for municipalities and schools which will need to be made up by our taxpayers.
- Come out and support the Corn Hole Fundraiser for the Coman Family this Sunday.
- After speaking to the County Health Officer, the South Amboy Council meetings will be continued to held electronically and not in person for the foreseeable future.

Mayor Henry:

- Sent condolences to the Coman Family and noted what a great example he was of giving back to the community.
- Please support the Rotary Blood Drive
- Wanted to recognize this is the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment which gave women the right to vote. There is a great exhibit about it at the library.
- There will be the 911 memorial ceremony at 6pm at the train plaza as usual.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Reported that the administration is aggressively working on obtaining more grant opportunities.

Mr. Womack: No report

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Over the next two weeks there will be red concrete ADA crosswalks being installed on Stevens. President Gross noted that the City employees including Mr. Rasimowicz, Mr. Balka and Mr. Balka are doing excellent work for the City.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Alka Baijal, 7 Lighthouse Bay, was concerned with the level of mess left by the public around the comfort stations, particularly the broken glass, food debris and toilet paper. It is unhygienic and especially scary during this time of COVID19. She noted that DPW does a stellar job keeping the area clean during the week but by the end of the weekend it is a mess. She suggested the City consider charging access fees to non residents, prohibiting glass bottles and citing for people caught littering. After some discussion, the Council rejected the idea of charging non residents as most felt strongly the beach should be available for all. The BA will speak with DPW to try and adjust and increase cleaning times and will meet with the Police regarding possible citations for littering.
2. Bill Demasi, 146 John St., thanked the Council for helping him address the bamboo issue with his neighbor. Just before he came to the meeting he was informed that the bamboo that is the issue, may be on the neighbors' yard, not his, just on his side of the fence. Apparently, the neighbor back set the fence a bit on installation. He will continue working the issue.
3. Ofc. Brian Noble requested going forward that there is a final decision regarding the current grievance and in the future we keep to a tighter deadline in processing grievances as per the contract.
4. Mr. Brandon Russell – Questions submitted earlier by Mr. Russell are made part of this record as well as Mr. Skarzynski's written responses. The full discussion can be found in the audio recording on the website. After the questions were answered Mr. Russell inquired how he could volunteer as a public advocate. The Council suggested that the normal route of a public resident getting involved was to start by joining a board or committee. Ms. Dato noted the City has a form for citizens who are interested in volunteering that can be filled out and will be reviewed by administration.
5. Mark Herman, 149 Stockton, reiterated the growing number of families in food crisis and thanked First Presbyterian, Mary and St. Mary and the Friends of South Amboy for their continued hard work. Families are still struggling.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

On motion by Ms. Dato, seconded by Ms. Noble and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk

Approved September 2, 2020