

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 23, 2020

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

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

ALSO PRESENT: Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Francis Womack, Director of Law and Mark Rasimowicz, City Engineer

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 and link to access the teleconferenced meeting.

Council President Gross moved this portion of the agenda forward in order that Mr. McManimon, Esq. and Ms. Ehlen from Beacon Properties not have to wait. Mr. McManimon reviewed the main points of the financial agreement and answered questions from the Council members.

ORDINANCE NO. 16-2020

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY AND AMBOY MAIN STREET INDUSTRIAL URBAN RENEWAL, LLC, PURSUANT TO THE LONG TERM TAX EXEMPTION LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 ET SEQ.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #16-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the December 16, 2020 meeting.

SECONDED by: Ms. Noble, **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin, Noble, Gross **Nays:** Reilly

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 #20-310 through #20-317 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

- NO. 20-310 RESOLUTION REFUNDING TAX OVER PAYMENT – ESTATE OF LILLIAN APPLGATE
- NO. 20-311 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM
- NO. 20-312 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

- NO. 20-313 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING THE CERTIFICATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS CONCERNING COSTS INCURRED IN THE REMOVAL OF DEBRIS AND CLEAN UP OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 104 S. ROSEWELL T. BLOCK 38, LOT 2, AND AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF A LIEN AGAINST SAID PROPERTY FOR SAID COSTS.
- NO. 20-314 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. 20-315 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX REFUND - SILVA
- NO. 20-316 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58
- NO. 20-317 RESOLUTION CANCELLING REAL PROPERTY TAX BILL FOR BLOCK 18.02 LOT 12

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-318
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 November 17, 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. 20-318 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-319
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 November 4, 2020 Business Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-319 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-320
2020-2021 Liquor License Renewal for 1220-33-032-003 – B 536 Symposium LLC

WHEREAS, an application has been filed to renew Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1220-33-032-003, heretofore issued B 536 Symposium LLC for the 2020-2021 license term; and

WHEREAS, the licensee filed a petition requesting authorization for the local issuing authority to consider renewal applications for said Plenary Retail Consumption License for the 2020-2021 license terms pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 33:1-12.39; and

WHEREAS, the licensee has obtained authority from the State of New Jersey, Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, to make application for renewal of its license for the 2020-2021 license term; and

WHEREAS, the licensee has filed applications for the renewal of its license for the 2020-2021 license terms from 7/1/20 to 6/30/21; and

WHEREAS, the submitted applications are complete in all respects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS, HEREBY RESOLVED that the Council of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey does, hereby, approve the renewal of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption License for the 2020-2021 term.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-320 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-321

AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A FEE PER EACH NOTICE OF TAX SALE

WHEREAS, NJSA 54:5-19.1 authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations require a municipality to send two (2) notices of tax sale to all properties included in said sale; and

WHEREAS, the rules and regulations allow said municipality to charge a fee of \$25.00 per notice for the creation, printing and mailing of said notice; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to more fairly assign greater fiscal responsibility to delinquent taxpayers, the CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY wishes to charge \$25.00 per notice mailed which will be assessed specifically to the delinquent accounts that are causing the need for a tax sale and not to the general tax base.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY that a fee of \$25.00 per notice be established and is hereby authorized and directed to be charged for each notice of tax sale that is sent in conjunction with the 2020 electronic tax sale.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-321 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-322

AUTHORIZATION FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND -SYSLO

WHEREAS, an overpayment was made by Raymond A. Syslo on 108 Henry St in the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex on Block 38 Lot 5 in the amount of \$740.54 on the 4th quarter of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the tax collector has certified the above payment has been made and on file in the tax collector's office; and

WHEREAS, the over payment was due to owner duplicating a payment which was escrowed and paid by the lender; and

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, by the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be and the same is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$750.54 and the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to adjust the tax records to reflect a refund in the amount of \$740.54:

Raymond A Syslo
108 Henry St
South Amboy, NJ 08879

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-322 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-323

AUTHORIZATION FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND - COELOGIC

WHEREAS, an overpayment was made by Corelogic on the following properties in the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex on the 4th quarter of 2020; and

Block	Lot	Qual	Address	Refund Amount
47	20	C06	106 Adamecs Way	363.39
47	20	C33	132 Adamecs Way	785.94
161.02	20.18	C24	48 Raritan Reach Rd	1831.05
161.03	20.10	C20	66 South Shore Dr	3007.96
161.04	1	C0604	604 Bayside Ct	2572.21
172	10	C18	35 Raritan Reach Rd	1183.14
172	10	C29	57 Raritan Reach Rd	<u>1831.05</u>
				11,574.74

WHEREAS, the tax collector has certified the above payment has been made and on file in the tax collector's office; and

WHEREAS, Corelogic has requested a refund; and

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, by the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be and the same is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$11,574.74 and the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to adjust the tax records to reflect a refund in the amount of \$11,574.74.

Corelogic Centralized Refunds
3001 Hackenberry Rd

Irving, TX 75063-0156

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-323 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Gross. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-324

AUTHORIZATION FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND – LABATO

WHEREAS, an overpayment was made by LABATO, ANTHONY on 64 South Shore Dr. in the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex on Block 161.03 Lot 20.10 Qual C19 in the amount of \$3045.16 on the 4th quarter of 2020 due to the sale of property; and

WHEREAS, the tax collector has certified the above payment has been made and on file in the tax collector's office; and

WHEREAS, LABATO, ANTHONY has requested a refund; and

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, by the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be and the same is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$3045.16 and the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to adjust the tax records to reflect a refund in the amount of \$3045.16; and

Anthony LaBato
2101 Lincoln Hwy, #852
Edison, NJ 08818

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-324 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-325

AUTHORIZATION TO CANCEL TAX BALANCE OF \$10 OR LESS

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to process, without any further action on the part of the Governing Body, any property tax refund of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be provided by the Municipal Clerk to the Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer.

MOVED by: Mr. Gross of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-325 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-326

AUTHORIZATION FOR A TAX OVERPAYMENT REFUND - REYNOLD

WHEREAS, an overpayment was made on the 4th quarter 2020 by Wells Fargo due to a 2020 Tax Appeal on Block 161.02 Lot 20.18 C22, 44 Raritan Reach Road on property owned by Reynold F. Daniel, in the City of South Amboy, County of Middlesex; and

WHEREAS, the tax collector has certified the above payment has been made and is on file in the tax collector's office; and

WHEREAS, Wells Fargo requested a refund; and

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved, by the Governing Body of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be and the same is hereby authorized to issue a check in the amount of \$1183.14 and the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to adjust the tax records to reflect a refund in the amount of \$1183.14.

Wells Fargo
1 Home Campus
Des Moines, IA 50328-0001

MOVED by: _____ of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-326 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** _____. **ROLL CALL**

RESOLUTION NO. 20-327

AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ELECTRONIC TAX SALE AND SUBMIT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

WHEREAS, NJSA 54:5-19.1 authorizes electronic tax sales pursuant to rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Director of the Division of Government Services, and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has promulgated rules and regulations for electronic tax sales, and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Division of Local Government Services has approved NJ Tax Lien Investors/RealAuction.com to conduct electronic tax sales, and

WHEREAS, an electronic tax sale is innovative and provides a greater pool of potential lien buyers, thus creating the environment for a more complete tax sale process, and

WHEREAS, the municipality of the CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY wishes to participate in an electronic tax sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the municipality of the CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to participate in an electronic tax sale and submit same to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services if necessary.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-327 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-328

RESOLUTION INCREASING THE CONTRACT FOR THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR GRANT WRITER SERVICES- CHRISTOPER MAZAUKAS

WHEREAS, the South Amboy City Council adopted Resolution No. 20-060, awarding the contract for Grant Writer Services to Christopher Mazaukas; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution sets the amount of the contract not to exceed \$25,000.00 without prior authorization of the City; and

WHEREAS, additional professional services are necessary in the amount of \$9,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined sufficient funds are available, as evidenced by the Chief Financial Officer's Certification, attached;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey, that Resolution No. 20-060 is hereby amended to increase the maximum amount to be paid under the contract to \$34,000.00

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-328 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-329

RESOLUTION INCREASING THE CONTRACT FOR THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HARRY HAUSHAULTER, ESQ. FOR TAX COUNSEL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the South Amboy City Council adopted Resolution No. 20-039, awarding the contract for Tax Counsel Services to Harry Haushalter, Esq.; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution sets the amount of the contract not to exceed \$17,500.00 without prior authorization of the City; and

WHEREAS, additional professional services are necessary in the amount of \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined sufficient funds are available, as evidenced by the Chief Financial Officer's Certification, attached;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of South Amboy, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey, that Resolution No. 20-039 is hereby amended to increase the maximum amount to be paid under the contract to \$35,000.00.

MOVED by: Mr. Gross of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-329 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-330

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE MAINTENANCE BOND TO ESTATE OF LILLIAN APPEGATE

WHEREAS, Lillian Applegate issued a Maintenance Bond pursuant to the Builders Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Special Services Engineer, Jason Valetutto, PE, PP, reported on November 9, 2020 that an inspection of the work was completed, and recommends that the Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$1571.40.00 be released.

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

1. The aforesaid Bond of \$1571.40 to the shall be released to the applicant; and,
2. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded by the City Clerk to the City Board Consultant, the Construction Official, Estate of Lillian Applegate, Dan Balka, Chief Financial Officer and to Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator.

MOVED by: Mr. Gross of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-330 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-331

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 TO Z BROS CONCRETE – JOHN T. O’LEARY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- SA-18-007-02

WHEREAS, the City of South Amboy adopted Resolution#20-080, which awarded the contract for John T. O’Leary Blvd. Road Improvements to Z Brothers Concrete; and

WHEREAS, the Project Engineer Mark J. Rasimowicz, P.E., P.P., C.M.E. has recommended and approved a change order which is set forth in Change Order No.1, approved by project engineer on November 10, 2020 attached; and

WHEREAS, the original amount of the Contract was \$539,766.45; and

WHEREAS, the deleted and adjusted contract items for Change Order No. 1 attached in the decreased amount of \$10,864.15 for a total contract price of \$528,902.30; and

WHEREAS, the Project Engineer has inspected the project and recommends payment to Z Brothers Concrete, subject to the advice of the City Law Director.

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

1. Change Order No. 1, approved by the Project Engineer on November 10, 2020, in the total decreased amount of \$10,864.15 resulting in an adjusted amount of \$528,902.30.

2. The Mayor or Business Administrator is hereby directed to execute Change Order No.1 on behalf of the City of South Amboy and payment in accordance therewith is hereby approved

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-331 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-332

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 TO JADS CONSTRUCTION – STEVENS AVENUE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- SA-16-007-03

WHEREAS, the City of South Amboy adopted Resolution#117-2018, which awarded the contract for Stevens Ave. Road Improvements to JADS Construction; and

WHEREAS, the Project Engineer Mark J. Rasimowicz, P.E., P.P., C.M.E. has recommended and approved a change order which is set forth in Change Order No.1, approved by project engineer on November 17, 2020 attached; and

WHEREAS, the original amount of the Contract was \$606,402.75; and

WHEREAS, the adjusted additional contract items for Change Order No. 1 attached in the increased amount of \$11,861.23 for a total contract price of \$618,263.98; and

WHEREAS, the Project Engineer has inspected the project and recommends payment to JADS Construction, subject to the advice of the City Law Director.

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

1. Change Order No. 1, approved by the Project Engineer on November 17, 2020, in the total increased amount of \$11,861.23 resulting in an adjusted amount of \$618,263.98.

2. The Mayor or Business Administrator is hereby directed to execute Change Order No.1 on behalf of the City of South Amboy and payment in accordance therewith is hereby approved.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 20-332 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES:

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE STRUCTURE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY TO INCLUDE AN EMS DIVISION AND PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION THEREOF

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #15-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the December 16, 2020 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 17-2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1036 ENTITLED "PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY" IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO PROHIBIT NON-EMERGENCY VEHICLE REPAIR ON PUBLIC STREETS AND ROADWAYS

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, that Ordinance #17-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the December 16, 2020 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 18-2020

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 – TRUCK WEIGHT ORDINANCE

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #18-2020 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the December 16, 2020 meeting.

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

COMMENTS

Ms. Dato:

- Congratulated the many businesses in South Amboy that had been recognized by the Readers Choice Awards.
- Thanked Kim Seber for her aid in food donations.
- Thanked First Aid and Raritan Bay Ruckers for their continued good work with food donations and delivery.
- Reminded everyone that the YMCA will be hosting a free family event on December 6th from 11-2 – crafts and vendors will be outside – free to all.
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving – and be safe!

Ms. Noble:

- Wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the Food pantries, Lucas family and Meet the Need for the 200 turkey dinners distributed to the residents.
- Received confirmation the status of the illegal pallet business and illegal housing – Mr. Skarzynski reported things were moving forward.
- Received an update regarding the purchase of a new vehicle for the second Fire Chief. Mr. Skarzynski reported the process is moving forward.
- Stated he had received a letter from Protection Engine Company which stated they were not in favor of leaving their current location to move into a new firehouse. He believes the volunteers should be able to stay in their current firehouse with all of its history. BA Skarzynski reiterated the need to provide an updated building that could meet current safety codes and keep the volunteers safe. He assured Mr. Reilly this was not an issue regarding real estate.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

- Thanked Kim Seber, First Aid and Raritan Bay Ruckers for their great work in collecting food donations for the food pantries.
- Noted he had also received a copy of the letter from Protection Engine House and requested that the City look at all options available – upgrading as well as moving to another location.
- Received an update from BA Skarzynski on the status of the purchase of the new ambulance. Mr. Skarzynski noted that there are some steps regarding bringing the First Aid Squad under the City’s umbrella that had to be completed as well as budgetary items that needed to be completed before the purchase could be made.

Mr. Gross:

- Thanked Ms. Seber for her help with the food donations
- Stated he really wanted to ensure forward progress on the purchase of the new trucks for the Fire Chief
- Agrees with Mr. Reilly and Mr. McLaughlin about looking into all possibilities of keeping the fire houses and updating them if economically feasible out of respect for the volunteers.
- Wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Asked the City residents to participate in the upcoming two blood drives being held by St. Mary’s and the Rotary – details can be found on the website.

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Middlesex Water Company will be doing work in Mechanicsville – please drive carefully in the area.
- The grant for the Feltus Street Phase II has been awarded to the City.

PUBLIC

1. Asst. Fire Chief Andrew Bielak thanked the Council for its continuing work to acquire new vehicles for the Fire Chiefs and hopes they can move forward quickly.
2. Edward Szakowski, Louisa Street, requested the City keep Protection Fire House open and make the needed repairs and updates. He felt like the volunteers are being kept out of the loop and requested they be included. They do not want to lose their buildings or combine with the First Aid squad. He asked the Council to come look at the memorabilia showing the history of the volunteer service. Councilman Reilly stated he believed the legacy of the volunteers A be respected and every effort made to keep the premises.
3. Larry Parson, Pupek Road, requested that a council member be appointed as a liaison to the fire companies and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

On motion by Ms. Dato, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin and passed unanimously (Ms. Noble-absent), the public portion of the meeting was closed and the Council went into closed session at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved December 16,2020

