

**MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 20, 2021**

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, Councilwoman Noble, Councilman Reilly, Councilman McLaughlin and Council President Gross.

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

The City Clerk read the Notice of Publication Certification .

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**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 #21-054 through #21-057 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

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NO. 21-054 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VETERAN TAX REFUND - JOHN JAROSZ

NO. 21-055 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VETERAN TAX REFUND - JULIUS UST

NO. 21-056 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2020-2021 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR 1220-33-005-006 - TARALLO

NO. 21-057 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER FROM SOUTH STEVENS PUB LLC TO ANVITA LLC

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**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-058**  
**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 December 16, 2020 Council Meeting and January 6, 2021 Reorganization-Business Meeting.

**MOVED by:** Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-058 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-059**  
**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 January 14, 2021, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

**MOVED by:** Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-059 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-060**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT DUE TO AN EMERGENCY PUMP STATION REPAIR AT RARITAN ST. – PUMPING SERVICES, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 authorizes a public entity to contract without public advertising for bids, notwithstanding that the contract price will exceed the bid threshold, when an emergency affecting the public health, safety or welfare requires the immediate delivery of goods or the performance of services; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark J. Rasimowicz, P.E., P.P., C.M.E., Director, Department of Engineering, City of South Amboy, reported, December 20, 2020, that there was an equipment malfunction at the Raritan St. pump station; and

**WHEREAS**, the January 6, 2021 report of the City Engineer is attached to and incorporated into this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark J. Rasimowicz, P.E., P.P., C.M.E., Director, Department of Engineering and Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, declared that an emergency existed and invoked the emergency contract provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6; and

**WHEREAS**, City Engineer, Mark J. Rasimowicz, P.E., P.P., C.M.E. and Business Administrator, Glenn Skarzynski, contracted with Pumping Services, Inc. of Middlesex NJ to perform immediate repairs at the Raritan St. pump station;

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

1. Glenn Skarzynski, the City Business Administrator, and Mark J. Rasimowicz, P.E., P.P., C.M.E., the City Engineer, properly invoked the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-6 and contracted with Pumping Services, Inc., to make repairs at the Raritan St. pump station, South Amboy, New Jersey, for a total price of \$17,219.81.

2. The aforesaid contract between the City of South Amboy and Pumping Services, Inc. is ratified.

3. Upon the furnishing of such labor and materials in accordance with the terms of the contract, the contractor shall be entitled to be paid therefore.

**MOVED by:** Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-060 is hereby approved as amended. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-061**

**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 December 19, 2018 Council Meeting.

**MOVED by:** Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-061 is hereby tabled. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-062**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE INSPECTION ESCROW - RUSSO**

**WHEREAS**, John Russo, issued an Inspection Escrow for 252 Raritan Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Engineer, Mark Rasimowicz, has recommended that the remaining escrow be released in the amount of \$1,353.48; and,

**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 Inspection Escrow shall be released in the amount of \$1,353.48; and,

2. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded by the City Clerk to the Engineer, the Construction Official, John Russo, Dan Balka, Chief Financial.

**MOVED by:** Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-062 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

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**FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-01**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 53 "DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE XXIII ENTITLED "STORMWATER CONTROL"

**MOVED by:** Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #2021-01 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the February 17,2021 meeting.

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

**COMMENTS:**

Ms. Dato:

- Condolences on the death of Mayor Gerald Tamburro of Monroe Township and congratulations to Stephen Dalina, the new Mayor. We wish him all the best.
- Proud to witness the inauguration this morning, especially of Kamala Harris as the first female, Asian, Black woman to be elected Vice President. I wish them every success. Noted she is honored and pleased that the citizens of South Amboy are open minded enough to elect two women to their Council. In her opinion women offer a different point of view and balance to the Council.

Ms. Noble:

- Agrees 100% with Ms. Dato's comments regarding the inauguration – congratulations to President Biden and Vice President Harris as well all the other newly appointed officials.
- Sends condolences to the Ust and Masterson families.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Hopes that families are staying safe, thanked the First Responders and food pantries for their continued work and is happy vaccine is coming out.
- Received an update from BA Skarzynski regarding the 400 block of Catherine St. and the 4<sup>th</sup> and Potter property. Basically, summonses have been issued but the owners are not responding.
- Reported he had read the letter from the Youth Association and wondered how much we could help them. BA Skarzynski noted the City is waiting on the County to release its funds which would then allow the City to decide where to put the additional funds.
- Received an update from BA Skarzynski on the Gen-on property. There has been some small initial interest but there are outstanding environmental issues that must be dealt with before things will be able to move forward.
- Confirmed with Attorney Womack that it was not in the General Code for our form of government to assign council members as department liaisons. Mr. Womack will reach out to other municipalities with the same form of government to see how they address the issue.
- Received confirmation that a referendum would be needed to change the form of government and asked that the City look into it.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the food pantries and First Responders for their continued important work in feeding the people in South Amboy who are in need. The City is grateful to the dedicated volunteers.
- Requested Mr. Womack follow up on a way to give some relief to the residents on late fees for the tax and sewer bills.
- Received an update on the illegal pallet production (No change ), the Venetian law suite (Mr. Womack will address in a closed session at the next meeting) and the illegal housing issue (Continued progress is being made)
- Condolences to the family of Bob Masterson, he was a dedicated volunteer, bag piper with the AOH, donated much of his time to volunteer work and will be sorely missed.
- Reiterated that he tabled the resolution approving the 12-18 minutes because he feels it is very important to reflect in more detail the views of the Council and public sentiment on the minutes.

Mr. Gross:

- Condolences to the Ust and Masterson families.
- Gave an update on the latest vaccine roll out and urged everyone to sign up on the state's site to get vaccinated.

Mayor Henry:

- Condolences to the Ust and Masterson families, they were dear people and it is a loss.
- Announced that the City has received \$120,000 in grant money from the NJ Transit and it will go toward new digital signs, digital blinking Pedestrian Crossing signs and two blinking radar speed check signs – all to increase the safety of the Broadway area.
- Regarding the election and inauguration – no matter who you voted for, we are here to celebrate America. Wishes President Biden and Vice President Harris do well so the country can do well.
- Thanked the food pantries and first responders for their continued efforts.
- Warned the citizens to not let their guard down regarding COVID safety practices.

BA Skarzynski:

- Thanked the food pantries and first responders as well as the local rotary, which has grown from 5 to 12 members and has been doing great work. Anyone with a business interest in the City should reach out and join the rotary.

Mr. Womack – No comment

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Nothing to report – congratulations to President Biden and the new Mayor of Monroe Township.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Brandon Russell, 327 4<sup>th</sup> St. – thanked the Council for their discussion on the 12-19-2018 minutes and for the communications with Mr. Gross, Mayor Henry, Councilman Reilly and Councilwoman Noble. Asked the status of the October 22, 2018 meeting minutes. Once again offered to help the Council with the minutes for the 12-19-2018 meeting.
- Greg Babilak, 125 Henry – Confirmed that the City had spent \$6000 to try and salvage the 12-19-2018 meeting and that there had been no guarantee the meeting was salvageable from the audiologist.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:**

On motion by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Dato and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks  
Municipal Clerk  
Approved February 3, 2021