

MINUTES FOR BUSINESS MEETING MARCH 17, 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, Councilman Reilly, Councilman McLaughlin, Councilwoman Noble, and Council President Gross.

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

The City Clerk read the notice of publication statement.

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 #21-075 through #21-084 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

- NO. 21-075 RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP WITH SOUTH AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION ELIGIBILITY – GUILLERMO CALDERON

- NO. 21-076 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS QUALIFYING FOR CREDIT UNDER THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR 2020

- NO. 21-077 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS QUALIFYING FOR CREDIT UNDER THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR 2020

- NO. 21-078 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX REFUND TO CORELOGIC ON BEHALF OF JORDON PRESS & JOANNA AMATO

- NO. 21-079 RESOLUTION APPROVING 2021 PBA/SOA AGREEMENTS

- NO. 21-080 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SEWER FEE REFUND – 64 SOUTH SHORE DR.
- NO. 21-081 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20
- NO. 21-082 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO CUSTOM CARE SERVICES, INC FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SERVICES
- NO. 21-083 A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY PLANS TO IMPROVE THE JUNCTION OF US HIGHWAY 9 AND US HIGHWAY 35 IN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, NJ.
- NO. 21-084 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL AND EXTENSION OF AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING SERVICES

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-085
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 February 3, 2021 Business Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-085 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Noble, McLaughlin, Reilly, Gross Abstain: Dato

RESOLUTION NO. 21-086
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 March 11, 2021, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-086 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

SECOND READING/ADOPTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGING SOUTH AMBOY’S ACCEPTANCE OF THE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN STREET (CR 684) AND BROADWAY.

OPEN PUBLIC – no comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-02 is hereby adopted.

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

COMMENTS:

Ms. Noble:

- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.
- Thanked emergency service responders and DPW for their continued good work.

Mr. Reilly:

- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.
- Thanked the food pantries and First responders who continue providing food for those in need.
- Received an update on the illegal pallet operation (no change), illegal rental units (still moving forward).
- Received an update on the Rosewell St. project. BA Skarzynski noted that the Developer had met with the Rotary Club to get feedback from local businesses. Ms. Dato confirmed there has been no presentation to SARA as of yet and noted the Developer had opened on-line communications to the residents of Harbor Village and Lighthouse Bay. Mr. Reilly thought it would be a good idea for the Developer to reach out to the residents of John St., George St. Henry St. and David St. for input as well. Mr. Reilly voiced his concern about offering PILOTs to the Developer.
- Received confirmation from Mr. Womack that there is a way to ease the overdue fees for sewer payments. Mr. Womack will follow up at the next meeting with specifics.

Ms. Dato:

- Spoke passionately about the horrible hate crimes against Asians that had resulted in several deaths. She is troubled by the increase in hate crimes and noted that we have two Asian restaurants on Broadway. One of them, Hibachi Express, was closed during the height of the pandemic possibly due to fear of reprisals. She noted the City of South Amboy was a city of inclusion and diversity and was proud the diversity extended to our police department. She is proud, as a daughter of a Puerto Rican mother and Ukrainian father, to be part of such a diverse city.

Mr. Gross:

- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.
- Reminded everyone to get vaccinated!

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Reported Assemblywoman Lopez was going to provide 300 meals to the food pantry tomorrow and next week, the Lucas family was going to provide 300 meals as well.
- Reported the COVID rental assistance program information is on the City web site.
- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day
- Noted this Saturday is the first day of Spring, farewell to Winter!

Mr. Womack:

- Thanked Councilwoman Dato for her moving comments on hate crimes.
- Sent his thoughts and prayers to the family in Carteret who had lost a child to a dog attack.
- Thanked the Clerk and Animal Control Officer for their continued work.

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Noted the Lucas donation was one of many contractors who had stepped up to help people and wondered if the developer of the Manhattan Beach project had offered to step up for the people in need in South Amboy.
- Noted Carteret had pumped 20 million dollars into their beach front and hoped South Amboy might rethink the Rosewell St. project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

On motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Dato and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks, RMC
City Clerk
Approved April 7, 2021