

MINUTES FOR BUSINESS MEETING MAY 19, 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 7:05 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: Fred A. Henry, Mayor, Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Francis Womack, Director of Law, CFO Dan Balka, Mark Rasimowicz, City Engineer and Municipal Clerk Brooks

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. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution #21-114 through #21-121 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

- NO. 21-114 RESOLUTION APPROVING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - KOKOSZKA
- NO. 21-115 RESOLUTION APPROVING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - DOBRIN
- NO. 21-116 RESOLUTION APPROVING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - O'CONNOR
- NO. 21-117 RESOLUTION APPROVING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - BURGOS-FIGEROA
- NO. 21-118 RESOLUTION APPROVING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - LOPEZ
- NO. 21-119 RESOLUTION APPROVING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - MOY
- NO. 21-120 RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX REFUND - CORELOGIC
- NO. 21-121 RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANTHONY GONSALVES TO SARA

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-122
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 5, 2021 Business Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-122 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-123
APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

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 May 13, 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. 21-123 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

RESOLUTION NO. 21-124
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE MAINTENANCE BOND TO CAMBRIDGE PAVERS, INC.

WHEREAS, Cambridge Pavers, Inc. issued a Maintenance Bond pursuant to the Builders Agreement No. 2017-152/2; and,

WHEREAS, the Special Services Engineer, Jason Valetutto, PE, PP, reported on May 13, 2021 that an inspection of the work was completed, and recommends that the Maintenance Cash Bond in the amount of \$267,214.29 (\$263,626.46 plus \$3587.83 interest) 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 Cash Bond of \$267,214.29 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, Cambridge Pavers, Inc., Dan Balka, Chief Financial Officer and to Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-124 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09 CAP bond pending - tabled

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-10

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 41 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO MORE SPECIFICALLY REQUIRE THAT GROWTH OF BAMBOO BE CONTROLLED BY PROPERTY OWNERS AND TO FURTHER CLARIFY THAT THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY FROM WHICH BAMBOO GROWTH EMANATES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ABATEMENT, AND FOR ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ABATEMENT, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE BAMBOO IS ON PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PROPERTY

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, that Ordinance #2021-10 be introduced as amended on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the June 16, 2021 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Ms. Dato:

- Reminded everyone that the Primary Election was on June 8th. South Amboy will have two voting locations – the Senior Center (Ward 2-1, Ward 2-2, and Ward 3-2) and the Middle High School Gymnasium (Ward 1-2, 1-2, 1-3, Ward 2-3, Ward 3-1,3-3) Polling location information will be on the website and media platforms shortly.

Ms. Noble:

- Happy Memorial Day and have a safe summer!

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Wanted to recognize and thank EMS as it is National EMS Recognition week.
- Received confirmation that there has been forward movement on the 4th street property. The courts issued fines and a 30 day moratorium by the judge.
- Wants the City to recognize the volunteers that have stepped up during the past year . The Council agreed to put a list together.
- The new flag retirement drop box is still in progress.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the food pantries, first responders and volunteers for their hard work and dedication. Noted both the food pantries and first aid organizations are looking for additional volunteers.
- Received updates on the First St. garage (no change), Rosewell Str. Market and apartments high grass area (BA will follow up), and requested something be done about the boarded up abandoned house on corner of Rosewell.
- Received confirmation from Mr. Womack that the ordinance for the sewer fee relief is moving forward and should be ready for the next agenda.
- Received confirmation from Mr. Skarzynski that a site visit had been completed at the Fasano property and there are no illegal businesses on the site.
- Requested update on the Venetian and Pidgeon palace – these will be covered in Executive Session

Mr. Skarzynski:

- June 19th “mother Earth” classical concert on the train plaza sponsored by the sustainable green earth team and sustainable NJ. Bring a chair!

Mr. Gross:

- Irish Festival at Raritan Bay Waterfront Park, September 25th. Food trucks, live music, fireworks!
- Requested the Council get together and come up with a list of people to be recognized for their work over the past year.
- Noted that it is not an easy process for Clerk Brooks to get the meetings back to the public and will take some time.

Mayor Henry

- Noted it was nice to see things opening up again
- Thanked the food pantry for their good work as well and the people and businesses donating.
- Thanked Mr. Skarzynski for all his hard work in procuring various grants such as the \$1.5 million for the ball fields and \$1 million for the waterfront.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Thanked the Mayor for his kind words and reported that the City had made it to the second round of a grant application of a wetlands preservation grant which would add a field to the sports complex
- Reached out to the woman who had voiced concerns over the fire siren and asked that they get in touch with him as he had met with the Fire Chiefs and may have a solution.

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Reported the S. Broadway paving project was awarded and should begin soon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Larry Parsons, Pupek Rd., invited everyone to attend the Firemen's memorial service on the 29th.

Hugh Giordano, 53 Argyle Ave, Blackwood NJ, requested the Council table the Cannabis Ordinance introduced at the last meeting. He is a representative of the UFCW which provides high skilled labor for the Cannabis industry. He suggested the Council look at the Ordinance Bayonne passed.

Marina Rebmann agreed with Mr. Giordano and noted she was a cancer survivor and user of medical marijuana. She requested the Council reconsider its Ordinance.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 21-125

AUTHORIZATION TO MOVE INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Property Acquisition

2. 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.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-125 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

The public session of the meeting was concluded at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks, RMC
City Clerk
Approve June 2, 2021