

MINUTES FOR BUSINESS MEETING JUNE 2, 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 6:05 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, Ronald Gordon, Esq., CFO Dan Balka, Mark Rasimowicz, City Engineer and Municipal Clerk Brooks

The City Clerk read the notice of publication statement.

DISCUSSION:

- 1. SARA – REAPPOINTMENT – DATO – 1 YEAR TERM – On motion by Mr. Gross, seconded by Ms. Noble and carried unanimously, Ms. Dato was appointed to a one year term as Commissioner on the South Amboy Redevelopment Agency

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-126
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 19, 2021 Business Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-126 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-127
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 May 27, 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. 21-127 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-128
LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL 2021-2022

WHEREAS, the applications for the license holders set forth on Schedule A, attached, have been received for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses, Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses and Club Licenses for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, no written objections have been received by the City of South Amboy for the renewal of these licenses; and

WHEREAS, the submitted renewal application forms are complete in all respects, renewal fees have been paid and tax clearance has been received pursuant to P.L. 1995, Chapter 161;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of South Amboy, New Jersey, that the Class C. Licenses referred to in the attached Schedule A, which is hereby incorporated into this Resolution, be renewed and the City Clerk is hereby directed to issue license certifications to these Licenses for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, provided the renewal is in accordance with the Alcoholic Beverage Law, N.J.S.A. 33:1-3.1, et seq., and the rules and regulations issued pursuant to the Act.

**SCHEDULE "A"
2021-2022**

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES:

License Number

Issued To:

1. 1220-33-031-004

114 Broadway Corporation
t/a Blue Moon
114 So. Broadway

2. 1220-33-011-005*

Chamois, LLC
221 S. Odessa Ave.
Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215

3. 1220-33-024-005

South Amboy Elks Lodge #784
t/a South Amboy Elks Lodge 784
601 Washington Ave.

4. 1220-33-015-008

Anvita, LLC
t/a South Stevens Pub
200 South Stevens Ave.

5. 1220-33-037-006

Double Nickel LLC
415 Main St.

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSES:

License Number

Issued To:

1. 1220-44-030-004

Stevens Avenue Deli & Liquor LLC
250 North Stevens Avenue

2. 1220-44-019-004

Krauszers Food and Liquor, Inc.
t/a Krauszers Food and Liquor
717-717A Bordentown Avenue

3. 1220-44-039-004

A & D Convenience Store, Inc.
t/a Krauszers

200 North Broad

4. 1220-44-036-006

Arjun, Inc.
t/a Main Liquors
533 Main Street

CLUB LICENSES:

License Number

Issued To:

1 1220-31-047-002

American Legion Post 62
111 David Street

2.1220-31-049-001

Col DB Kelly Div 1
Middlesex County
271 Second St.

*** INACTIVE LICENSE**

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-128 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. McLaughlin. ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING/ADOPTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-06

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 – 220 SECOND ST. – ENGLISH - HONIMAR

OPEN PUBLIC – no comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-06 is hereby adopted.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-07

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FORMAL ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY AND A DEED OF ROADWAY DEDICATION FOR NOMINAL CONSIDERATION FROM THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY FOR PURPOSES OF CREATING A RIGHT-OF-WAY ON AND ALONG RADFORD FERRY ROAD IN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

OPEN PUBLIC – No comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-07 is hereby adopted.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 53-98a, ENTITLED "RESTRICTIONS ON GROWTH AND SALE OF MARIJUANA" TO CHANGE THE TITLE TO "CANNABIS BUSINESSES PROHIBITED," AND ADD A NEW SECTION, PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY CLASS OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY

OPEN PUBLIC – Mr. James Smith questioned the Council’s reasoning behind the banning of all cannabis sales, medical dispensaries, etc. He is against across the board restrictions of the possibility of new businesses and thinks it is not a smart decision. Mr. Mike Vintzileros thought it was ironic to ban all cannabis industry as the City is in the process of renewing its many liquor licenses. He believes as an addict that the use of medical marijuana has helped him in his recovery and believes the large number of bars does more damage than marijuana would do. He noted that 68% of the population had voted to legalize marijuana and was disappointed the public was not being given any reason for voting to ban cannabis sales, etc. He stated he thought this was prehistoric thinking and not a responsible approach. Mr. Reilly noted his yes vote came after discussing the situation with someone in the medical field.

CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-08 is hereby adopted.

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

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,808,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,665,600 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, that Ordinance #2021-11 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 14, 2021 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-11

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE RARITAN STREET PUMP STATION IN AND BY THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$1,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,000,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #2021-11 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 14, 2021 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SOUTH AMBOY CITY CODE, CHAPTER 19, ENTITLED "POLICE REGULATIONS", ARTICLE II, EMPLOYMENT OF OFF DUTY POLICE OFFICERS (ORDINANCE NO. 13-92)

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, that Ordinance #2021-12 be introduced on first reading as amended and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 14, 2021 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the first responders and food pantry for the continued good work being done by our excellent volunteers.
- Asked if we are any closer to knowing when we can go back to in person meetings. The City Clerk is still awaiting direction from the County Health Department.
- Received confirmation that the City would follow up on Bill 5-3160/A49.69 if it passed, which will fund grants for local food pantries. Mr. Skarzynski said they would follow up on the bill once it passed and had already applied for some other grants to help fund the food pantry.
- Sent condolences to the family of Mike Havlusch
- Received report from President Gross that the courts are going to open up soon thus the warrants out on the illegal pallet business can be served.
- Inquired if Mr. Womack has made any inroads regarding the water/sewer late fees ordinance.
- Requested the bamboo ordinance be modified to require residents to keep their bamboo plants in planter.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanked the volunteers working at the food banks
- Send condolences to the family of Mike Havlusch
- Noted the success of the Veterans Memorial Day services
- Thanked the Council for passing the Cannabis Ordinance
- Hopes to go to in person meetings soon.

Ms. Noble:

- Thanked the Veterans for the Memorial Day services.
- Wished everyone a happy evening.

Ms. Dato:

- Wondered what happened to the lovely hanging baskets and large pots of flowers that used to adorn Broadway. Mr. Skarzynski reported that because of the installation of all the new cameras and lights, the baskets and flowers would have gotten in the way. He noted new banners are coming and there will be streetscape improvements.
- Reminded everyone to vote in the upcoming primary on June 8th. Ward 2, district's 1 & 2 and Ward 3, district 2 are back to voting at the Senior Center. Everyone else will continue voting at the high school gym.
- Sample ballots have been mailed out.

Mr. Gross:

- Outdoor dining is currently extended to the end of September. Mr. Skarzynski and the Zoning Officer will take whatever steps are needed.
- September 25th is the Irish Festival. There will be rides, food vendors and fireworks.

- June 19th will have a “Mother Earth” themed classical concert on the train plaza. It is hosted by Sustainable Jersey and the Green Team. Bring your own chair!

Mayor Henry:

- Noted that before anyone attends the free concert on the 19th, they can participate in the beach clean up from 10 to noon.
- Thanked the American Legion for the Memorial Day services. This is a very dedicated group of people.
- Thanked the First Aid and Fire Department for their contributions to the Memorial Day activities – a great bunch of volunteers!
- Reminded everyone to attend the Historical Society’s vintage baseball game at 11 am on Veteran’s Field on Saturday, June 5th.
- Sent condolences to Andy Pipala’s mother and to the family of Lois Morriss, a close family friend, member of the rotary and one time Vice President of the South Amboy Trust Company. She will be missed.

Mr. McLaughlin wanted to know if Mr. Gross would sit in the Dunk Tank for a SAYAA fundraiser. Mr. Gross said of course!

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Complimented the Rotary for its ongoing good work. They have sold out their upcoming Daddy/Daughter Dance fundraiser. He noted Ms. Morriss had been the first female Rotary member in 1987.

Mr. Gordon noted it was a pleasure covering for Mr. Womack and to participate in such a well run meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bill DeMasi questioned the Council about the location and specific use of the cameras being installed around Mason and John Streets. Mr. Skarzynski said there would be no private areas in camera range and while tickets wouldn’t be issued from the cameras the police can use the footage to identify trouble spots and bring more local coverage to those areas.

Brandon Russell received confirmation that City Hall was still not open to the public, however the public can come in by appointment. Employees have been in every day of the Covid pandemic working. He received a brief overview on how to proceed with an initiative/referendum to get an ordinance passed. He asked if code enforcement could take a look at the house on S. Pine and Henry. It is very overgrown and an eyesore.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Dato, seconded by Ms. Noble and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks, RMC
City Clerk
Approved June 16, 2021