

MINUTES FOR BUSINESS MEETING JUNE 16, 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: 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 #21-132 through #21-140 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

NO. 21-132 RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR COMMUNITY CENTER WATERPROOFING REPAIRS – SA-20-011-01

NO. 21-133 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF THE MECHANICSVILLE FIRE COMPANY 1986 MACK MC, 1250 GPM PUMPER TO THE NEW JERSEY FIRE MUSEUM

NO. 21-134 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 21-135 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2021-2022 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS

NO 21-136 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. 21-137 RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR 2021 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- VARIOUS LOCATIONS

NO. 21-138 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NJ DOT FOR THE BROADWAY PHASE 1 ROADWAY AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

NO. 21-139 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NJ DOT FOR THE 4TH, POTTER, AND THOMPSON STREETS ROADWAY AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

NO.21-140 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NJ DOT FOR THE MAIN STREET PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-141
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 June 2, 2021 Business Meeting and the June 9th Special Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-141 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor with Ms. Dato abstaining from the June 9th meeting minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-142
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 June 10, 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. 21-142 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES

ADOPTION/SECOND READING

This ordinance public hearing is carried to the July 14, 2021 Council Meeting.

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

OPEN PUBLIC
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: _____, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-10 is hereby adopted.

SECONDED by: _____, **ROLL CALL VOTE**

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the First Responders and Food pantry volunteers for their continued great work.
- Received confirmation that there has been no change in the First St. Garage situation.
- Received an update on the Pidgeon Palace property from Mr. Womack that the City has been given a return date for the Order to Show Cause – the week following the 4th of July.
- Received confirmation that the Venetian Litigation is still moving along in the courts as they open up post-Covid.
- Sent his congratulations to the South Amboy High School graduates as well as to any private, parochial or Tech school graduates.
- Enjoy the Fourth of July! Celebrate responsibly!

Ms. Dato:

- Noted that Sunday was Father’s Day and that being a parent was one of the most important roles a person can have. Thanked all the Fathers out there doing the work!

Ms. Noble:

- Wished all the dads a Happy Father’s Day – especially her brothers.
- Have a safe and Happy 4th of July
- Congratulations to all the graduates!

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanked Pres. Gross for pulling the two PILOT Ordinances from the agenda.
- Received updates from Mr. Skarzynski on the Fifth and Potter property as well as the Catherine Street property. They have been issued summonses and there has been a contractor hired to repair the Fifth and Potter property.
- Received confirmation that Mr. Skarzynski will look into the installation of speed bumps in the alley.
- Reported having attended the Flag Burning Ceremony hosted by the American Legion and Boys Scouts.
- Thanked the food pantry volunteers as well the continued efforts by the Police Department, Fire Department OEM and First Aid workers.
- Wanted to know how many commissioners on SARA did not live in town. BA Skarzynski thought one, but would confirm and get back to Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. McLaughlin did not think Mr. Chubenko was doing good service to the town and may conflict with Carteret, where he also works. Mr. McLaughlin would like to see more warehouse projects.
- Congratulated all the graduates.
- Wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Mr. Gross:

- Noted there is a vaccination clinic scheduled Saturday, June 26th by the Fire House at the High School and George St. South Amboy has not yet reached the 70% vaccination rate. Please go and get vaccinated!
- Received an update from Mr. Skarzynski on the status of ordering the two new Fire Chief Trucks and the new fire truck.
- Reminded everyone about the concert this Saturday at the train station. A classical concert with a theme of “Mother Earth” sponsored by Sustainable NJ and the Green Team.

- September 25th is the Irish Festival – the site already has 15,000 views! There will be more information on parking coming in August and September.
- Congratulations to all the graduates and to their parents for a job well done!

Mayor Henry:

- Thanked the South Amboy Green Team for arranging the upcoming concert at the train station.
- Reminded everyone that there was a beach clean up this Saturday at 10am.
- Noted there was a blood drive this Sunday at St. Mary's
- Wished all the Dads a Happy Father's Day
- Announced that the Request for Proposal for a Ferry Operator would be posted shortly and the project was moving forward after a lot of effort by many people.

BA Skarzynski: No comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Greg Babilak, 125 Henry Street, confirmed that a special meeting would be held on the 23rd and that Ms. Dato would be absent. He questioned the Council negotiating in closed session instead of a public session. Mr. Womack confirmed because it was a contract negotiation it would be held in an executive session.

Brandon Russell, 327 Fourth St., confirmed with Mr. Womack that the terms that are in the PILOT that was published earlier could be changed. He wondered why these same steps of transparency hadn't occurred during the 2018 PILOT negotiations. Requested there be no public vote for 2 to 3 months so there could be plenty of time for public input. Mr. Reilly noted that the Council had no part in the negotiations and that the numbers as they are currently are unlikely to change.

ADJOURN

On motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Gross, and passed unanimously, the Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks, RMC
City Clerk
Approved July 14, 2021

Michael Gross, Council President