

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 18, 2021

The Meeting held at South Amboy City Hall, 140 North Broadway, South Amboy, New Jersey, was called to order by Councilwoman Noble 6:00 P.M. The City Clerk read the Opening Prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Councilwoman Dato, Councilwoman Noble, Councilman McLaughlin and Councilman Reilly.

ALSO PRESENT: Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, and Francis Womack, Director of Law. Mayor Henry was absent.

The City Clerk read the Notice of Publication Certification

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 #21-159 through #21-180 with Resolutions 21-173 and 21 175 as amended are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

- NO. 21-159 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL TO JOIN THE HUNTERDON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION
- NO. 21-160 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX SALE REFUND – RILEY
- NO. 21-161 RESOLUTION INCREASING THE CONTRACT FOR THE AWARD OF A FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL SERVICES ENGINEER – GROTTO ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES
- NO. 21-162 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE CASH BOND TO GORDON STREET ASSOCIATES, LLC – PROJECT 608048
- NO. 21-163 RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL PAYMENT, ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTENANCE BOND AND PERFORMANCE BOND RELEASE FOR COMMUNITY CENTER WATERPROOFING REPAIRS – GEOCON INDUSTRIES
- NO. 21-164 AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR SHARED SERVICES WITH WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES
- NO. 21-165 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND BY N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-3 ET SEQ.
- NO. 21-166 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 – BODY CAMERAS GRANT

- NO. 21-167 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 – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN GRANT
- NO. 21-168 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2020-JUNE 2025 FUNDS
- NO. 21-169 RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE CENTRAL JERSEY JOINT INSURANCE FUND
- NO. 21-170 AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE TWO 3 CAMERA P720 MOBILE LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION SYSTEMS
- NO. 21-171 AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE THIRTY TWO (32) PANASONIC BWC4000 HD BODY CAMS
- NO. 21-172 AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE TWO (2) CHEVY TAHOES FOR THE SAFD FROM MALL CHEVROLET – ESCNJ CONTRACT 20/21-09
- NO. 21-173 AUTHORIZING TAX REFUND – CORELOGIC
- NO. 21-174 AUTHORIZATION FOR VETERAN TAX ADJUSTMENT – LEE
- NO. 21-175 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE D.A.R.E. DONATION TRUST FUND N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29
- NO.21-176 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO 2021 POLICE INTERCEPTOR SUVs FOR THE SAPD
- NO. 21-177 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO WHELAN EMERGENCY LIGHTING PACKAGES FOR THE SAFD
- NO. 21-178 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE MAINTENANCE BOND TO DAVID STREET PROPERTIES, LLC.
- NO. 21-179 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 40 SETS OF SCOTT SCBA GEAR FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
- NO. 21-180 ESTATE TAX REFUND – ESTATE OF JOHN O’LEARY

RESOLUTIONS:

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-181
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 July 14, 2021 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-181 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Dato, McLaughlin, Noble Abstain: Reilly Absent: Gross**

RESOLUTION NO. 21-182
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 August 12, 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. 21-182 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING/ADOPTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-13

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 – 249 Second Street - MOSMAN

OPEN PUBLIC – no comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-13 is hereby adopted.
SECONDED by: Mr. McLaughlin, **ROLL CALL VOTE: All Ayes**

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-14

AN ORDINANCE RELEASING, EXTINGUISHING AND VACATING THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC TO A PORTION OF SOUTH STEVENS AVE.

OPEN PUBLIC – no comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-14 is hereby adopted.
SECONDED by: Ms. Dato, **ROLL CALL VOTE: All ayes**

FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-15

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1036 ENTITLED "PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS" FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY – REMOVE DOMBROWSKI – 145 S. PINE AVE.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, that Ordinance #2021-15 be introduced on first reading as amended with the addition of the removal of 138 Augusta St., and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the September 15, 2021 meeting.
SECONDED by: Mr. Reilly, **ROLL CALL VOTE: All ayes**

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Sent Get Well wishes to Richie Johnson and Camille Tooker.
- Thanked the First Responders and Food Pantry for their continued great works and commended the dedication of the volunteers.
- Announced the Friends of South Amboy Fundraiser for December 18th and is hoping to get four games arranged. Come out and support the FOSA.
- Passed on a request from Mr. Herdman, OEM Dir., to suspend snow parking rules on Mains St. from Feltus to Bordentown.
- Requested the brush in front of the print shop on Feltus be cleared.
- Requested the City go in and clean up the Rosewell St. property and received confirmation from BA Skarzynski that summonses had been issued.
- Noted the fountain on O'Leary Blvd. was not working. BA Skarzynski reported that the lower water levels in the area caused the pumps to burn out.
- Received updates on the First St. garage – no change and BA Skarzynski will send out the Code Official again.
- Reported he had attended the Dedication of Independence Fire House hosted by the Historical Society, it was a very good event.
- Requested an update regarding the bamboo ordinance from Mr. Womack and after discussion with the Council, Mr. Womack was directed to amend the invasive species Ordinance to ban bamboo in the City.
- Requested the status of the illegal pallet operation – no change. However, BA Skarzynski noted the courts were scheduled to reopen to the public soon and would expect warrants, etc. would be moving forward.
- Reported there will be a food drive in September hosted by the ELKS, details will be forthcoming.
- Questioned why the City was making First Aid go through the purchasing office to spend their \$70,000 annual budget as opposed to just giving them the money directly. BA Skarzynski noted that as the First Aid department would soon be under the umbrella of the City, it must follow statutory mandates of purchasing requirements.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Welcomed the public and stated he was happy to be back attending meetings in person.
- Thanked the First Responders and food pantry for their continued great work.
- Confirmed that the Mayor had approved summer hours for the City staff and noted that the council hadn't been advised. BA Skarzynski said he would ensure Council notification going forward.
- Confirmed that the JCP&L vegetation control program was in progress.
- Received and update from BA Skarzynski on the Ferry project. RFP's had been received for the Ferry Operator and were currently being reviewed with an award of contract expected at the next meeting.
- Confirmed that the installation of speed bumps was still moving forward.
- Confirmed that there are two, not three PILOTS that are due to come in front of the Council. BA Skarzynski confirmed that yes there are two; one is for both residential buildings and one is for the warehouse project.

Ms. Dato:

- Reported that the deadline for applying for rental assistance was coming up at the end of August. South Amboy has yet to have anyone apply for assistance and she was sure that there are residents in need of assistance. Please let your neighbors and friends know that assistance is available through the NJ Shares program – information is on the website.

- Reported that the Senior Center is reopening in September and will be restarting some of it's programs such as chair yoga and Bingo. Pick up service will be provided. Call 732-525-5960 for information.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- The city wide camera system grant installation is 81% installed.
- Please register your "Best Of " Votes with the Home news Tribune
- The First Aid Dept., Fire Department and Hackensack Medical are offering a free "on the Scene" first aid course.
- The Arts Festival is September 12th on Broadway.
- The Fire Department will be hosting the 20th annual 9/11 remembrance ceremony on the 11th at 11am at the train station plaza.
- Reported the Rotary had conducted a successful blood drive in which they had received enough donations to save 54 lives.
- Saturday, October 16th from 9am to noon will be a free rabies clinic at Enterprise Fire House.
- There will be a free Shred Day on August 28th at 9am in the Middle/High School parking lot.
- Irish Festival is September 25th – It is going to be a great event!
- The South Broadway paving project is still in progress.
- Announced that employee Kristal Mannion has gained her Certification as a QPA. She continues to provide excellent work and we are all proud of her accomplishment.
- The Broadway signs from the grant have all been installed and new LED speed signs are coming.
- The first of the two new fire trucks should be here at the end of August or early September and the second is due three weeks after that.
- The two new Fire Chiefs trucks have been delivered.
- The Food Pantry/First Presbyterian Church is having a community block party after the 9/11 remembrance ceremony.
- Assemblyman Coughlin is hosting the Bowl for Hunger Fundraiser on Monday, August 23rd.

PUBLIC:

- 1) Bill DeMasi, 146 John St., noted there are a number of empty store fronts in town and wondered if the owners can be fined for keeping them empty after a certain time period. In his opinion they are getting a tax break at the expense of our downtown looking bad. He also mentioned his concern about the kids center being built at Station Bay and how it might effect the school system. He wondered if there was a way to request a period of "quiet hours" from NJ Transit to prevent them from blowing the train whistle so loudly.
- 2) Dave Szatkowski thanked the Council for the purchase of the new Fire Chief trucks
- 3) Brian Murphy, 260 Henry St., announced there is a new athletic director in South Amboy and stated that he thought that the four games for the FOSA fundraiser should be a go.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

On motion by Ms. Dato, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin and passed meeting was adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk

Approved September 1, 2021