

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 15, 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: Councilman McLaughlin, Councilwoman Noble, Councilman Reilly, Councilman Gross.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Fred Henry, Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Francis Womack, Director of Law and Dan Balka CFO.

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. Noble of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution #21-192 through #21-194 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

- NO. 21-192 RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR 2021 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – FELTUS AND SIXTH STREETS
- NO. 21-193 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION BY RIDER FOR REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE IRISH FESTIVAL DONATION TRUST FUND N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29
- NO. 21-194 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A CASH BOND TO STEVE RYAN – 157 SECOND ST.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-195
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 September 1, 2021 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-195 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-195 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Noble. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Noble, Reilly, Gross, Abstain: McLaughlin Absent: Dato

RESOLUTION NO. 21-196
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 September 9, 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. 21-196 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-198

**RESOLUTION AFFIRMING PLANNING BOARD RESOLUTION PB-6
RECOMMENDING AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY
MASTER PLAN ELEMENT AND ASSOCIATED ORDINANCES FOR
PURPOSES OF UPDATING THE HISTORIC LANDMARK INVENTORY,
ADD INDEPENDENCE FIRE COMPANY AS A PRESENTATION
ELEMENT DESIGNATED AS A HISTORIC LANDMARK, AND
MAKING VARIOUS OTHER AMENDMENTS**

WHEREAS, the purpose of the City of South Amboy Historic Preservation Commission is defined in §83-5 of the South Amboy City Code as “to develop and implement the official local historic preservation plan for the City of South Amboy”, and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2021, the members of the Historic Preservation Commission adopted Resolution HPC-1-21 finding:

- that the Independent Fire Company Firehouse “has a special character and a special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, heritage and cultural characteristics of South Amboy”;
- that it has served as a continuously operated firehouse since 1924;
- that it is an early and important reminder of the development along Broadway in the early 20th Century; and
- that it “remains mostly intact since 1924 with small modifications; and

WHEREAS, the South Amboy Historic Preservation Commission recommended that the Independence Fire Company Firehouse be added to the Historic Preservation plan element of the City’s master plan, and that it be designated as an Individual Landmark; and

WHEREAS, by resolution the South Amboy City Council referred the matter back to the Planning Board to conduct such a study as may be necessary for the purpose of adding the Independence Fire Company Firehouse as a historic landmark pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55B-65.1; and

WHEREAS, by Planning Board Resolution 6-21 dated June 24, 2021 the Planning Board recommended that the City of South Amboy amend the Master Plan Element and associated ordinances to update the historic landmark inventory, add Independence Fire Company Fire House as a presentation element designated as a historic landmark, and to make various other amendments including the appendixes designating “City of South Amboy Designated Historic Landmarks”, “City of South Amboy Designated Historic Districts”, and City of South Amboy Designated Historic Districts and Structures as identified in the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection – Historic Preservation Office New Jersey and National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the Council supports recommendations of the Planning Board for amending the Master Plan Element and associated ordinances to update the historic landmark inventory to include Independence Fire Company Fire House;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the South Amboy, City Council, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. that recommendations of South Amboy Planning Board resolution PB 6-21 be referred to the City Planner and City Engineer;

that the City take all actions necessary to expeditiously designate Independence Fire Company Fire House as a historic landmark, and to make various other amendments as appropriate, including the appendixes designating “City of South Amboy Designated Historic Landmarks”.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 21-196 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES:

SECOND READING/ADOPTION

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., BAIST – 138B AUGUSTA

OPEN PUBLIC – No comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Ms. Noble, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2021-15 is hereby adopted.

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

FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-17

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A TEMPORARY GRADING EASEMENT BY THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY FROM MANHATTAN BEACH CLUB LLC FOR PURPOSES RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED FERRY TERMINAL FACILITY

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, that Ordinance #2021-17 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the October 20th, 2021 meeting.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-18 – THIS ORDINANCE WAS PULLED FORM THE AGENDA

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY AMENDING THE LINE OF AUTHORITY AND PERSONNEL LEVELS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the First Responders and Food Pantry for their continued good work and asked for volunteers.
- Noted it was nice to see new volunteers in the First Aid Department.
- Wished the SAFD good luck down at Wildwood.
- Reported that the SAFD did an excellent job at the 911 ceremony.
- Announced the sale of 50-50 raffle tickets for the FOSA December 18th event.
- Confirmed that currently income from the sewer fees was not being used to cover any expenses outside of sewer costs.
- Received updates on the First St. garage and the Pallet operation.
- Reminded everyone that the Council will be bestowing delayed recognition to four individuals that were supposed to have been honored during Government week last year but had been postponed due to COVID.

Ms. Noble:

- Reported she has received many, many compliments from residents about the cleanliness of the downtown beach area. She thanked DPW, Mayor Henry and Mr. Skarzynski for their efforts.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Wished the SAFD good luck at the convention in Wildwood and was sure they would do us proud!
- Thanked the emergency service workers for their continued good work and noted Mary Porcello was honored by the Governor.
- Congratulated Rob Sekerak for his appointment as the new President of the First Aid Squad.
- Requested moving forward on recognizing the work done during Covid by Lucas Construction and the Food Pantry Volunteers. BA Skarzynski said he would follow up.
- Received an update on the Fourth Street and Catherine Street properties.
- Received a timeline update on the Ferry project from BA Skarsynski.

Mr. Gross:

- Reminded everyone about the upcoming Irish Festival on September 25th and noted any funds raised would be donated to local organizations.
- Next years St. Patrick's Day Parade will be on Sunday, March 20th with Tom Dempsey as Marshal.
- This Saturday is a beach clean up day - thank you to Jay Elliott, Green Team, Sustainable Communities and DPW for all their help.
- Get Vaccinated! The County is preparing for the possibility of the need for a booster shot.
- Reported he may be missing an October meeting due to knee replacement surgery.

Mayor Henry:

- Congratulated Rob Sekerak on his appointment as President of the First Aid Squad and asked people to consider volunteering, it is a great organization!
- Thanked the SAFD for providing a lovely 911 ceremony - it is hard to imagine we are at the 20 year anniversary of such a sad event.
- October 9th is the Yard Sale, October 10th is Touch-A-Truck
- September 27th the Library will celebrate Hispanic Heritage month.
- The Ferry project is moving along quickly with the release of the funds from the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and the state providing an additional \$1,000,000.00!
- To everyone who celebrates a Blessed Yom Kippur.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Code Enforcement continues its good work and is paying particular attention to the 100 blocks at the moment.
- Thanked Joan Conway, Camille Tooker and the rest of the Arts Alliance on the success of the Art Festival.
- One of our new fire trucks is making its way down to Wildwood and the other is due in a few weeks.
- The two new Chief's cars are registered and going to be fitted out.
- Will be happy to relay the Council and publics appreciation for a job well done to the DPW workers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- 1) Greg Babilak, 125 Henry St. asked for and received the timeline and process of the posting of the Meeting agendas from Clerk Brooks
- 2) Brandon Russell asked if there was to be any more discussion on having the meetings live streamed. As previously answered by the Council and BA, it will be brought up at next years budget meetings.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (END OF PUBLIC SESSION) – 7:36PM

RESOLUTION NO. 21-197

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:

Litigation:
Venetian
161 S. Broadway
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. 21-197 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

On motion by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Noble and passed unanimously, meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved October 6, 2021