

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 19, 2022

The Meeting held via GoTo Meeting platform, was called to order by Council President Michael Gross at 7:00 P.M. The City Clerk read the Opening Prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Fred Henry, Glenn Skarzynski, Business Administrator, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Dan Balka, CFO, Mark Rasimowicz, City Engineer and Francis Womack, City Attorney.

Clerk Brooks 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 NO. 22-054 through NO. 22-058 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

- NO. 22-054 RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #1, FINAL PAYMENT #3, PERFORMANCE BOND RELEASE AND ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTENANCE BOND FOR 2021 VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – S&G PAVING INC.
- NO. 22-055 SARA APPOINTMENT – DATO - RESCINDED
- NO. 22-056 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONWIDE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH JOHNSON & JOHNSON, MCKESSON, CARDINAL HEALTH, AND AMERISOURCE BERGEN TO RESOLVE CLAIMS INVOLVING THEIR ROLES IN THE COUNTRY’S OPIOID CRISIS
- NO. 22-057 RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #2, FINAL PAYMENT #5, PERFORMANCE BOND RELEASE AND ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTENANCE BOND FOR 2020 VARIOUS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – PM CONSTRUCTION CORP.
- NO. 22-058 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND ADOPTING THE CENTRAL JERSEY JOINT INSURANCE FUND’S 2022 SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-059
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 January 5, 2022 Reorganization and Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 22-059 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-060

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 January 14, 2022, 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. 22-060 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor.

ORDINANCES:

FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01

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 – 515 MAIN STREET - CHAVIS

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, that Ordinance #2022-01 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the February 16, 2022 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Ms. Noble:

- Congratulated DPW on a great job during this past snow event and noted she had received positive comments regarding their work from several citizens.

Ms. Dato:

- Thanked the Administration, Council President and all involved in setting up the testing center. It is an asset to the City as tests have been hard to get.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- Thanked everyone who was attending the meeting from the public.
- Noted that DPW and OEM had had a busy night with the weather event.
- Thanked the first responders and food bank volunteers for their continued efforts.
- Thanked the men and women serving our country.
- Reminded everyone to keep themselves safe from Covid and thanked the City for establishing the testing center.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the first responders and food pantry volunteers and asked the public to consider volunteering for the first aid squad or fire department.
- Thanked everyone who came out for the FOSA fundraiser which was a great success.
- Requested an update on the First St. garage situation and noted it was a disgrace and has been in a deplorable state for several years.
- Noted he agreed with Ms. Dato's email requesting we return to the use of Business as well as Council meetings.

Mr. Gross:

- Noted several important dates coming up: the parade on March 20, July 3rd Fire Works and the Irish Festival on October 1st.
- Reported Covid numbers are declining.
- Discussed the Council going back to live meetings at the end of February or beginning of March and asked the Council to let him know their thoughts on the dates.
- Thanked Mark Herdman, Jay Elliot for all their efforts in getting the testing site up and running.

Mayor Henry:

- Reported that the Wische property remediation had begun as well as the reconstruction of the Allie Clark Athletic Complex.
- Noted that Forbes magazine had done a nice article on the Manhattan Beach project.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Thanked Mark Herdman and Jay Elliot for all the work they did on getting the testing center open.
- Reminded everyone to drive carefully tomorrow morning as its supposed to be a wintry mix.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ed Grimes advocated for increased handicap access and approving sale of cannabis. He entreated the Council to "Put the Last First" as good Christians".

Mike Vintzileas, 264 John St. echoed the sentiments of Mr. Grimes and questioned the Council on their reasons for not approving the opening of medical cannabis sales in the City.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Dato and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved February 2, 2022