

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 5, 2022

The Meeting held 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 Clerk read the Opening Prayer and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Councilwoman Dato, Councilman McLaughlin, Councilman Reilly, and Council President Gross

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

Clerk Brooks read the Notice of Publication Certification.

AUDIT:

Presentation by Gary Higgins.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-184
GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year ending December 31, 2021 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall, by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed, as a minimum, the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled "Comments and Recommendations", as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of South Amboy, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 22-186 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin, Reilly, Gross **Absent:** Noble

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: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution NO. 22-185 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin Reilly, Gross **Absent:** Noble

NO. 22-185 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VETERAN PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION - SZARO

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-186
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 21, 2022 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 22-186 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin Reilly, Gross **Absent:** Noble

RESOLUTION NO. 22-187
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 29, 2022, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bill list be appended to the official minutes.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 22-187 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin, Reilly, Gross **Absent:** Noble

RESOLUTION NO. 22-187

RESOLUTION CREATING A ONE-TIME EXCEPTION FROM SOUTH AMBOY CITY ORDINANCE 35-4A(2) TO PERMIT THE SALE AND SERVICE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEGINNING AT 9:30 A.M.

WHEREAS, Section 35-4A(2) of the Municipal Code of the City of South Amboy provides, “On Sundays, no alcoholic beverages may be sold, served or delivered to the licensed premises between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.”, and

WHEREAS, the National Football League has deemed it appropriate for the New York Giants football team to play against the Green Bay Packers at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London, England on Sunday, October 9th, 2022 in a game that will begin at 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there are many New York Giants fans in South Amboy who have a long tradition of watching Giants games in the social setting of bars and establishments in the City of South Amboy; and

WHEREAS, hours for on-premises consumption of alcohol in New Jersey are regulated by local ordinance, and there is no statewide prohibition on sale and service of alcoholic beverages after 9:00 a.m. on Sundays; and

WHEREAS, establishments that are licensed to serve alcoholic beverages have requested that there be a one-time exception to City Ordinance 35-4A(2) to allow the sale and service of alcoholic beverages beginning at 9:30 a.m. on October 9, 2022;

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

1. that there be a one-time exception to City Ordinance 35-4A(2) to allow the sale and service of alcoholic beverages beginning at 9:30 a.m., rather than 11:00 a.m. on October 9, 2022;
2. that this exception shall apply only to holders of Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses and shall not apply to holders of Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses;
3. that the City Council extends best wishes and support to the New York Giants for a victory over the Green Bay Packers.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 22-188 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin, Reilly, Gross **Absent:** Noble

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the First Responders and Food Pantry volunteers for their continued efforts and requested the Clerk put a Proclamation recognizing such efforts at an upcoming meeting.
- Reminded everyone that they can support our veterans by participating in the Buy-A-Brick fund raiser.
- Reported the FOSA fundraiser will be on December 17th.
- Requested the Business Administrator post a link from the NJ Business Actions Centers which is a good resource for the City's small businesses.
- Confirmed with Mr. Skarzynski that no PILOT numbers from Station Bay had been received to date.
- Confirmed there was no forward movement on the illegal pallet business.
- Received updates on the Rosewell Market property as well as the Pidgeon Palace property.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanked the volunteer workers for their good work.
- Reported that the Allie Clark Field Complex looks great!
- Received update on the Warehouse project.
- Thanked Mr. Higgins for his audit report.

Ms. Dato:

- Discussed the upcoming election and various deadlines for voter registration and mail in ballot applications as well as early voting.
- Reported the Jazz concert at the library was a great success.
- Thanked CFO Balka, BA Skarzynski and Auditor Higgins for the good work on the audit.

Mr. Gross:

- Requested BA Skarzynski and Mr. Womack provide a court date regarding the Pidgeon Palace as soon as possible.

- Requested that CFO Balka follow through on the auditing of the PILOT programs.
- Reminded everyone the rain date for the Irish Festival is this Saturday – come out and enjoy!

Mayor Henry:

- Requested the Traffic Officer look into the possible installation of a 15 minute parking spot in front of the Krausers on Broadway.
- Thanked Elaine Gaber for presenting such a successful Jazz Music program at the library. Urged residents to check out all the library programs!
- Reported the Small Business Association will be hosting a concert Thursday evening across the street.
- Noted that he had participated in a New York Times interview for an article promoting the City. The article is due out in late October.
- Received information from NJTransit and is happy to announce the City will be receiving another 8 million dollars in grant money for the Ferry project.

Mr. Skarzynski:

- Reminded everyone about the concert tomorrow at the train plaza.
- Noted he was enjoying the new Courtroom sound system!

PUBLIC:

Mark Herdman, 149 Stockton St., congratulated the Council on the new audio system, confirmed no dredging had been started on the Ferry project yet and requested the City Hall parking lot needed to have its pot holes filled.

On motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Reilly and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved October 19, 2022