

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 18, 2023

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: Councilman Conrad, Councilwoman Dato, Councilman Reilly, and Council President Gross ABSENT: Councilman McLaughlin

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Fred Henry, Kathy Kudelka, Interim Business Administrator, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Mark Rasimowicz, PPE, and Francis Womack, City Attorney.

Clerk Brooks read the Notice of Publication Certification.

DISCUSSION:

1) Amending Chapter 58 – Dogs and Cats

Ann James spoke to the Council about amending the current Dogs and Cats ordinance in order to provide greater protections from abuse and neglect and to raise the current violation charges in order to be more effective as a deterrent. The Council confirmed with Mr. Womack that the Police Department and Animal Control have responsibility for enforcement. Council President Gross directed Mr. Womack to work with Ms. James and Ms. Dundee to put together an ordinance for introduction in February.

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. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution NO. 23-055 through NO. 23-056 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Conrad. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Reilly, Gross Absent: McLaughlin

NO. 23-055 RESOLUTION APPOINTING BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR – DAVE KALESSS

NO. 23-056 RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROSE CUSHING TO THE GREEN TEAM AS YMCA REPRESENTATIVE

RESOLUTION NO. 23-057

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 4, 2023 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 23-057 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Reilly, Gross Absent: McLaughlin

RESOLUTION NO. 23-058
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 12, 2023, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 23-058 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Conrad. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Reilly, Gross Absent: McLaughlin

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COMMENTS:

Mr. Conrad:

- Thanked the Fire Department and First Responder volunteers for their good work.
- Congratulated Dave Kales on his appointment as Business Administrator, noting he is the right person at the right time for the job and is looking forward to his steady leadership.
- Thanked Ms. Kudelka for her work as Interim BA.
- Thanked Ms. James and Ms. Dundee for their presentation on the need to update the Dog and Cat Ordinance and is looking forward to the amendment being on an upcoming agenda.
- Recognized the legacy of Martin Luther King Day, noting his work has led to a more perfect union and knows the City will take the opportunity to recognize community events and hold faith with the residents.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the Food Pantry and First Responder volunteers for their continued good work.
- Asked that the Business Administrator look into the delay in receiving any PILOT numbers.
- Confirmed that Phase II of Station Bay has not yet begun and the delay is due to a delay in materials and equipment delivery.
- Confirmed that the hearing date for the Pidgeon Palace is February 7th.
- Requested the City put out a newsletter as there hasn't been one in a while.
- Reported that Chief Dragotta has stated the Explorer's program for 16 and over youth is being reinstated. This is an excellent introduction for the youth to volunteering. Anyone that is interested can reach out to the Fire Department.
- Requested a "Report a Concern" tab be added to the website.
- Requested the Volunteer FD Rose Sale flyer be posted.
- Requested the Wednesday November 22 meeting be changed to Monday, November 20th as per usual. The Clerk will amend the notice.
- Thanked Ms. James and Ms. Dundee and agreed that there need to be changes and that the fees should be amended as well for greater effect.

Ms. Dato:

- Thanked Mr. Reilly and Mr. Kales for their continued efforts with the Friends of South Amboy. She noted they had enabled the purchase of a ping-pong table and foosball table to give the teenagers something additional to do.
- Reported the unpleasant situation of the missed garbage pickup which presented a health hazard and conveyed the importance of a two times weekly pick up to the residents of Shoregate.

Mr. Gross:

- Congratulated Dave Kales on his appointment as Business Administrator.
- Noted he will be absent at the February 1st meeting do to knee replacement surgery.

Mayor Henry:

- Noted the trash pick-up issue was a matter of mis-communication and some changes are needed to ensure schedules are met.
- Thanked the Council for approving the appointment of Dave Kales noting Mr. Kales is a man of good conscience and thinks he will do a great job for the City.
- Congratulated Rose Cushing on her appointment to the Green Team.

Ms. Kudelka: No Comment

Mr. Rasimowicz: No Comment.

Mr. Womack:

- Thanked Ms. Kudelka and Ms. Brooks for aiding him during the transition to a new Business Administrator.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chris Smiga, 144 Second St., reviewed the recently released NJDOH/NJDEP Healthy Community Planning Report, noting areas of concern such as asthma incidences, air cancer numbers, air quality, and COPD emergency department visits. Mr. Smiga reported this information as a tool to assist local government officials. He also noticed that the required Stormwater documents are not all available on the website as required.

Glen Davis, 1134 Upper Main Street, requested the City look into a path to cross from the Gillette Building to Washington Avenue. It is difficult to navigate. Ms. Kudelka will follow up. Noted that some of the tax information had disappeared off the GIS maps. Mr. Rasimowicz noted the County had been doing updates and this had resulted in not all the information showing – he believes they are working on correcting it.

Mary Taylor, Shoregate Village, thanked Ms. Dato for addressing the trash pick up issue so speedily.

Mark Herdman, 149 Stockton, OEM Coordinator, asked for the status of the Ferry project. The dredging is complete and they are moving forward on the floating dock. The Construction bid will be opened January 26th. He also received updates on the Rosewell Street site (remediation complete) and the Warehouse project which is moving forward.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ms. Dato, seconded by Mr. Conrad and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved February 1, 2023