

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 6, 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 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilman Conrad, Councilman Reilly, Councilwoman Dato, Councilman McLaughlin, and Councilman Gross.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Henry, David Kales, BA, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Dan Balka, CFO, Mark Rasimowicz, City Engineer and Francis Womack, City Attorney.

Clerk Brooks read the notice of publication.

MAYOR’S STATEMENT:

Mayor Henry reported the opening of a charter school in the old Sacred Heart School. This is actually for Perth Amboy students and the school has signed a one year lease with an additional one year option. He emphasized there are no South Amboy funds being expended for this project and all inspections had been completed and the school was in complete compliance. The Mayor then thanked Mr. Rasimowicz for all the hard work he had done on the Ferry project and was excited the Resolution to award the Ferry Project to Kyle Konti Construction was to be passed this evening. It has been a long road and the following people are some of the people who deserve recognition for getting the project nearer to it’s completion: Former Mayor Jack O’Leary, Former BA Camille Tooker, Assemblyman Coughlin, Assemblywoman Lopez, Senator Vitale, SARA, Eric Chubenko, former BA Glenn Skarzynski and current BA David Kales.

Mr. Rasimowicz noted there had already been a pre-con meeting and he is excited the project is moving forward.

Mr. Kales reiterated it was a team effort and thanked the Mayor for his ongoing support.

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. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolutions NO. 23-153 through NO. 23-156 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor. Resolution 23-157 was pulled from consent and voted on separately.

- NO. 23-153 TAX REFUND – SCARPA
- NO. 23-154 TAX REFUND – CORELOGIC – 406 S. FELTUS ST.
- NO. 23-155 PURCHASE OF ALPR CAMERA SYSTEM FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
- NO. 23-156 PURCHASE OF MTS POWER LOAD AND POWER PRO STRETCHER FOR FIRST AID SQUAD

NO. 23-157

RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR CONTRACT
MODIFICATION 3 – FERRY FACILITY DESIGN AND PERMITTING

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 23-157 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Conrad, Dato, Reilly, Gross **Abstain:** McLaughlin

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 23-158

RESOLUTION AWARDING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO KYLE CONTI CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUTH AMBOY FERRY TERMINAL LOCATED IN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the City of South Amboy has certified in writing, the availability of funds for the purposes set forth in this Resolution, not to exceed \$31,840,223.00; and

WHEREAS, sealed proposals for the construction of a Ferry Terminal were received by the City of South Amboy, opened and read in public for Construction of a Ferry Terminal located at South Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, nine (9) bidders submitted proposals; and

WHEREAS, the bids were reviewed and scored by Evaluation Committee members; and

WHEREAS, it was determined that the lowest responsible responsive bid was submitted by Kyle Conti Construction, LLC, whose offices are located at 749 Clawson Avenue, Hillsborough, NJ 08844, and that Kyle Conti Construction has both the qualifications necessary to perform the services along with the acceptable rates required to best serve the City;

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

1. The contract for the Ferry Terminal Construction is hereby awarded to Kyle Conti Construction, LLC, 749 Clawson Avenue, Hillsborough, NJ 08844, subject to execution of the contract as provided in paragraph 2 below;
2. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the contract for same, attached hereto as Exhibit A, but not sooner than September 14, 2023;
3. In accord with paragraph 2, above, The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby further authorized and directed to take all further action and execute any further documents to give full effect to the contract and its objectives;
4. The City Clerk shall provide certified copies of this Resolution to all bidders, the City Engineer and the City Law Director;
5. A notice of this action shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality within ten (10) days of the approval of this Resolution.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 23-158 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Conrad, Dato, Reilly, Gross **Abstain:** McLaughlin

RESOLUTION NO. 23-159
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 August 16, 2023 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 23-159 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Dato, McLaughlin, Reilly, Gross **Abstain:** Conrad

RESOLUTION NO. 23-160
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 lists dated August 31, 2023, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 23-160 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

ORDINANCE

ADOPTION/SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-14

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 –REMOVE 354 DAVID ST.

OPEN PUBLIC Motion Mr. McLaughlin, Second Mr. Conrad

No Comment

CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2023-14 is hereby adopted.

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

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-15

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 – ADD 111 N. FELTUS ST., 251 GORDON ST. AND 355 MAIN ST.

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #2023-15 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the October 4, 2023 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the first responders and food bank volunteers for their continued efforts.
- Wished the South Amboy Firemen good luck in the upcoming Wildwood event and noted that our Fire Department always has a good showing.
- Requested the Council present the food pantry volunteers with a proclamation and noted he would get the names and information for the proclamation to Clerk Brooks.
- Confirmed with Mr. Kales that it is the City's intent to tax the new charter school.
- Congratulated newly hired police officers, Robert Garcia, Marcus Nunez and Kyle Gasiewski.
- Requested the BA look into working on the downtown business district as laid out in the Masterplan. Perhaps trying to get more grants.
- Noted he would like to have a Business Breakfast meeting on October 21st.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanks all who are attending the meeting.
- Thanked the volunteers and emergency service workers
- Congratulated the new police officers.
- Reminded everyone that school is open – drive carefully!

Mr. Conrad:

- Welcomed teachers and students back to school and is sure it will be a productive year.
- Thanked the first responders and emergency services for their continued good work and is looking forward to attending the 9/11 ceremony this Sunday at 2pm.
- Is happy the ferry project resolution was finally awarded and that the project can finally move forward to completion.

Ms. Dato:

- Reported that the Senior Center will be offering the services of the Surrogate's Office services.
- The "We Love You" Foundation is back and will be holding a back pack event on 9/11 at the elementary school from 9:30am to 10:30am.
- The Arts Fest will be hosting an event on 9/24 from 11am to 4pm – music, arts & crafts, etc.
- Wished the students good luck in the upcoming year and reminded everyone to drive safely.
- Asked that during this heatwave we reach out and check on our neighbors.

Mr. Gross:

- Thanked BA Kales, Mayor Henry and all who helped get the Irish Festival together. He proudly announced the South Amboy Parade Committee will be conducting the Memorial Day Parade next year.
- Noted the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be at 2pm on 9/10.
- Reported that Middlesex County is going to try and implement a County wide swimming program based on the 2nd grade program South Amboy has conducted in the past. He is hoping to expand to the 3rd grade in the upcoming year.

Mayor Henry:

- Reiterated the Irish Festival is this Saturday.
- The 9/11 ceremony is on the 10th at 2pm – let's come out to show our support to the people who lost their lives.
- Congratulated Susan Pizzillo on her retirement – she will be missed.
- Noted some residents may have noticed the NY Waterway Bus driving around the City. Once the Ferry opens the bus will be setting up pick up spots to take residents to the ferry dock. He is happy to see this project moving forward.

Mr. Kales:

- Announced a fund raiser to be held for Construction Official Tom Kelly who is facing severe health issues. The fundraiser is at Woodbridge Brew pub, September 7th, 5pm to 9pm.
- Asked for support during the Irish Festival, 9/11 ceremony and the upcoming Arts Fest.
- Appreciates all the support he has received in bringing the ferry project closer to a reality.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mary Szaro, 370 Fifth St., as a representative of the Historical Society reported the success of the July Walking Tour event and hopes to hold another one in October. Mr. Kales noted there may have to be route changes due to the ferry construction.

Brandon Russell, 327 Fourth St., questioned the Council and Mayor about why he wasn't appointed to the Municipal Alliance Committee. Mr. Womack noted it is neither non-ethical nor inappropriate for the Council and Mayor to chose someone they believe is a better fit then Mr. Russell.

Greg Babilak, 125 Henry St., Confirmed the signs had been ordered for 232 N. Stevens St. regarding speeding and through truck traffic. Confirmed that changing the meeting formats to live stream or a Zoom like platform will be under consideration. He questioned why Mr. Conrad had singled out Mr. Kales, Ms. Kudelka and Mr. Balka for bringing the PILOT payment issue to the forefront when it had actually been Mr. Reilly and Mr. Russell who were responsible. Mr. Conrad noted that the actual work to solve the problem had been completed by Mr. Kales, Ms. Kudelka and Mr. Balka and acknowledged that Mr. Reilly had been key to bringing the issue to the forefront. Mr. Gross noted it is always nice for the Council to reach out and thank the staff that are accomplishing the cities goals.

Chris Smiga, 144 Second St., confirmed the PILOT payments due 8/1/23 had been received. Mr. Reilly confirmed the payments are billed quarterly, in line with the tax billing dates.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Reilly and carried unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved September 20, 2023