

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 19, 2024

The Meeting was called to order by City Clerk, Deborah Brooks at 7:00 P.M. The City Clerk read the Opening Prayer, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call was taken.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, David Kales, BA, Mayor Henry, Dan Balka, CFO, and Attorney Womack

The Clerk read the Certification of Meeting Notice.

PROCLAMATION:

The Arc Middlesex County – 75th Anniversary Gala – The Mayor read the Proclamation

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.

On motion by Mr. Anthony, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, Resolution 24-112 was pulled from the consent agenda.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolutions NO. 24-113 through NO. 24-126 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. McLaughlin. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

NO. 24-112 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (CH. 159, P.L. 148) – PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REVENUES OFFSET BY APPROPRIATIONS

NO. 24-113 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY FIRST AID ORGANIZATION QUALIFYING FOR CREDIT UNDER THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR 2023

NO. 24-114 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION LIST OF VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS QUALIFYING FOR CREDIT UNDER THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM (LOSAP) FOR 2023

NO. 24-115 EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS

NO. 24-116 RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR 2024 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – JADS CONSTRUCTION

NO. 24-117 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE CASH BOND, SAROP 23-101- PORTIA STREET - O’GORMAN

- NO. 24-118 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TWO 2025 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY (K8A) AWD VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
- NO. 24-119 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2016-2017
- NO. 24-120 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2017-2018
- NO. 24-121 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2018-2019
- NO. 24-122 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2019-2020
- NO. 24-123 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2020-2021
- NO. 24-124 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2021-2022
- NO.24-125 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL UPON FAILURE TO TIMELY RENEW FOR LICENSE NO. 1220-44-001-007 FOR THE PERIOD OF 2022-2023
- NO. 24-126 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL 2024-2025

On motion by Ms. Dato, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, Resolution 24-112 was passed.
 Ayes: Conrad, Dato, McLaughlin, Reilly Abstain: Gross

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 24-127

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 June 5, 2024 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 24-127 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

RESOLUTION NO. 24-128 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 June 13, 2024, 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. 24-128 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad. ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

PUBLIC HEARING – FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE CSC TKRR, LLC, D/B/A CABLEVISION OF RARITAN VALLEY (William Palatucci)

Mr. Palatucci gave a brief presentation and answered a few questions from the Council.

ORDINANCE:

ORDINANCE 2024-12

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING MUNICIPAL CONSENT FOR THE RENEWAL OF A CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE FOR THE OPERATION OF A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM WITHIN THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY TO CSC TKR, LLC, D/B/A CABLEVISION OF RARITAN VALLEY

MOVED by: Mr. Gross, that Ordinance #2024-12 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the July 17, 2024 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Mr. Conrad:

- Wished everyone a Happy Juneteenth and the importance of its observance.
- Thanked the volunteers for their continued support.
- Reported that on June 20 at Ted’s Bar, the FOSA, Riley’s Touch a Truck and Heaven Sent Animal Rescue will be sponsoring a fundraiser for a young lady with an inoperable brain tumor. Please come and show your support.
- Reported that on 6/21 First Presbyterian Church will be having a multicultural food celebration.
- Reported this Friday at 7pm, the Arts Alliance will be having an Acoustic program.
- Wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Ms. Dato:

- Reported another successful Lunch & Learn which had focused on pre-diabetes.
- Echoed Mr. Conrad’s sentiments on observing Juneteenth.
- Congratulated the seniors on their upcoming graduation and to those students moving up.
- Reminded everyone to come out and support the fundraiser at Teddy’s Restaurant – giving support is what South Amboy residents do best!
- Reported the NJ Symphony Orchestra will be performing Wednesday, June 26th at 6:30pm.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanked the volunteers for their continued good work.
- Reminded everyone it is summertime and to watch out for the kids playing and to check on the elderly in this heat.
- Noted the warehouse project is moving along and the Ferry project is a little slow.
- Reported ACCNJ held a local job fair which South Amboy didn’t respond to and requested those looking for work to reach out to him.
- Wished everyone a happy July 4th.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the first responders and food pantry volunteers for their continued support.
- Thanked the Elks for the Flag Day invitation.
- Wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.
- Echoed the previous comments regarding the FOSA, Touch-a-Truck, Heaven Sent Animal Rescue fundraising event.
- Echoed Mr. McLaughlin's comments on checking in on the elderly during this heat wave.
- Noted Universal Window will be having its Grand Opening on June 22nd.
- Congratulated all of the South Amboy seniors who are graduating.
- Reminded everyone about the summer concert series and how it could tie into supporting our local businesses.

Mr. Gross:

- Thanked the first responders and volunteers.
- Noted he had attended the NJ Symphony Orchestra performance last year and it had been phenomenal.
- Thanked the City Engineer for all the work he was doing on the roads projects.

Mayor Henry:

- Noted Mr. Conrad had done a great job explaining the origin of Juneteenth and it is a day we need to observe.
- Thanked the Boy Scouts and American Legion for their Flag Day ceremonies.
- Noted the Elks had a nice Flag Day Program and it is good to keep these traditions alive.
- Reported the progress of the paving of the various streets moving forward.
- Was happy to report the demolition of the property on John St. will occur between this Saturday and Monday – finally!

Mr. Kales:

- Thanked his team for getting the demolition project together quickly as NJ Transit only had two dates available for the demolition and the second date would have been in October or November.
- Thanked Ms. Brooks and Mr. Balka for getting the Resolution awarding the road paving contract together so quickly.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mary Szary, 370 Fifth St., gave an update on the Green Team that had just had a meeting noting there were new people in attendance and many new projects being discussed. She thanked the Business Administrator, Mr. Bartlinski and Ms. Walenty for their attendance. She asked if there was any update on the COAH plan, Mr. Womack said there will be no changes until the City is made aware of its new obligation number.

Elzbieta Samojluk, 395, Conover St., reported an ongoing issue of loud music being played by her neighbor. She noted she had called the police a few times and they had come out to tell the neighbor to turn it down. The neighbor would comply but turn it back up a short while later. She questioned the City's enforcement policy. Mr. Gross said he would look into the matter and someone from the County Health Department would be reaching out to her shortly.

Brandon Russell, 327 Fourth St., echoed Ms. Szaro's statements about the Green Team. He noted the Community Garden at the American Legion property was going well and

wondered if they could start one at the David St. Park property. Mr. Kales will follow up with him.

Mark Herdman, 149 Stockton St., noted it is the beginning of hurricane season – and it is forecasted as being an active season so please get a preparedness bag together. Also please hydrate in this hot weather and check on your elderly relatives.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Conrad, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved July 17, 2024