

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

The Meeting was called to order by City Clerk, Deborah Brooks at 6:00 P.M. The City Clerk read the Opening Prayer, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call was taken.

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

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

The Clerk read the Certification of Meeting Notice.

PROCLAMATION: ARC-Middlesex County DSP Week

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. 24-158 and NO. 24-160 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

NO. 24-158 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITHOUT PUBLIC ADVERTISING DUE TO AN EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIR AT GEORGE STREET IN FRONT OF THE FIREHOUSE.

NO. 24-159 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL 2024-2025 – 1220-33-013-004 – DANNY BOYS TAVERN - pulled

NO. 24-160 RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #1, FINAL PAYMENT #6, FOR ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS – FOURTH, POTTER & THOMPSON STREETS – CSE SA-22-005-01

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 24-161
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 4, 2024 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 24-161 is hereby approved as amended by adding the attendance of Mr. Herdman. **SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad** **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, McLaughlin, Reilly, Gross Abstain: Dato**

RESOLUTION NO. 24-162 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 12, 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. 24-162 hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad. ROLL CALL VOTE:**

ORDINANCE:

FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE 2024-18

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 -HANDICAP SPACE 229 BORDENTOWN AVENUE, 131 AUGUSTA STREET, AND 145 AUGUSTA STREET

MOVED by: Mr. McLaughlin, that Ordinance #2024-18 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the October 16, 2024 meeting.

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

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the food pantry and first responder volunteers for their continued efforts.
- Sent condolences to the Attardi family.
- Noted that the American Legion will honor Bob "Zak" Sekerak and Bill Garnett at a Testimonial dinner on November 2nd from 6pm to 10pm. Contact Bob Moglia for tickets.
- Reported he received a copy of the Handicap ordinance and will meet with Ofc. Clark to discuss some revisions.
- Noted he met with Tim Walczak and Tim Gay to discuss the volunteer crisis and put together a campaign to recruit more volunteers.
- Asked that residents mark their calendar for the December 21st FOSA fundraiser.

Mr. McLaughlin:

- Thanked all who attended this evening's meeting.
- Sent his condolences to the Attardi family.
- Congratulated the Fire Department for another winning year at Wildwood.
- Noted in an article in the Middletown newspaper there was a mention of giving a tax break to people who volunteered, perhaps the City would consider a similar program. Also, it is time to look toward establishing a Public Safety Complex.

Mr. Conrad:

- Congratulated the Fire Department on a successful trophy haul from Wildwood.
- Thanked the first aid and fire department volunteers and is looking forward to coming up with a solution to the lack of volunteers.
- Sent condolences to the Attardi family.

- Thanked Capt. McCabe for working with NJ Transit on maintaining safety and quality of life at the station.
- Reminded everyone that South Amboy Day is October 12th, come out with your families and enjoy the day!

Ms. Dato:

- Sent condolences to the Attardi family.
- Mentioned a traffic safety issue at the corner of Bertram & Catherine Streets. Apparently, people coming off route 9 are going through the light on a regular basis.
- Reported attending another successful Lunch & Learn that focused on Estate Planning.
- Reminded everyone that Election Day is November 5th. She discussed various methods of voting including early voting and mail in ballot voting.

Mr. Gross:

- Reminded everyone that October 12th is South Amboy Day.
- Congratulated the Fire Department on their success at Wildwood.
- Reminded everyone to mark their calendars for March 16th, the St. Pat's Parade with Mark Herdman as Grand Marshal.
- Sent condolences to the Attardi family.

Mayor Henry:

- Sent condolences to the Attardi and Kanecke families.
- Congratulated the Fire Department noting South Amboy is always well represented.
- Noted he had met with the Mocco property owners and Mr. Kales will fill in the details.
- Reported the military service plaques had been added to the Veteran's Memorial Park.

Mr. Kales:

- Reminded everyone Veteran's Day is on November 11th this year and details on the ceremony will be forthcoming.
- Reported that he and the Mayor had met with the owners of the Mocco property and have confirmed that the property is up for sale. There is a developer involved, Ryan Homes, that is currently doing its due diligence on the property. Mr. Kales reminded everyone that the property is zoned for residential. The current proposal of 200 units was rejected due to density issues, traffic issues and wetland issues. Mr. Kales also confirmed there is no redevelopment plan in place.

Mr. Womack:

- Stated it is good to be back and appreciates all the support he has received.

Mr. McLaughlin added a comment requesting the residents desires be considered in the development on Main and Feltus.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Nancy Bellzer (sp?), 116 S. Broadway, is happy with the progress on the TNR Ordinance and hopes the City can help with its funding.

Amy Dundee, 18 Pupek, noted that December 21st is the Basketball fundraiser. She thanked the Council for doing a great job for the City, especially Mr. Kales who never half-asses anything. She is disappointed to hear that developers are looking at the Mocco property and is concerned about traffic issues, especially around the Hole-in-the-Wall. She noted there are often people running the light at Main St. and Stevens. She congratulated Mr. Herdman

on being the Grand Marshal of this year's St. Pat's Parade. Finally, in the spirit of putting one's money where one's mouth is, she would like to be considered for any open SARA positions. Mr. Reilly noted Ms. Dundee is a true asset to the City and supports her being considered for the SARA opening. Mr. McLaughlin concurred.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Conrad, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved October 2, 2024