

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 2, 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 Reilly, and Council President Gross.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Henry, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, Dan Balka, CFO, OEM Dir. Mark Herdman, City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz, Attorney Christopher Zingara, Construction Official Greg Czoch, Zoning Officer Jason Valetutto, and Capt. McCabe.

The Clerk read the Certification of Meeting Notice.

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 of Mr. Gross, seconded by Mr. Reilly and passed unanimously, the Council pulled Resolutions 24-165 and 24-166 from the consent agenda.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolutions NO. 24-163, 24-164, 24-167 and 24-168 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Conrad. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

On motion of Mr. Reilly, seconded by Mr. Conrad and approved unanimously, the Council voted to vote on Resolutions 24-165 and 24-166 separately.

On motion by Mr. Reilly, seconded by Ms. Dato, the Council approved resolution 24-165. Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Reilly Abstain: Gross

On motion of Mr. Conrad, seconded by Ms. Dato, the Council approved resolution 24-166. Ayes: Conrad, Dato Nays: Reilly Abstain: Gross

NO. 24-163 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF A TAX OVERPAYMENT – 58 PUPEK ROAD.

NO. 24-164 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF A CASH BOND TO MAIN STREET INVESTMENTS LLC. – BA-20-1035 – 502 ALPINE STREET.

NO. 24-165 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LITTER PICK UP PROGRAM SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY

NO. 24-166 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP, JURISDICTION AND MAINTENANCE OF FIFTH STREET FROM STEVENS AVENUE TO NORTH FELTUS STREET TO THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY

NO. 24-167 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF GENERAL CAPITAL FUND – UNEXPENDED IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

NO. 24-168 CAPITAL BUDGET AMENDMENT

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 24-169 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 18, 2024 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 24-169 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Ms. Dato** **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

RESOLUTION NO. 24-170 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 26, 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. 24-170 hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad.** **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

ORDINANCE:

SECOND READING/ADOPTION:

ORDINANCE 2024-17

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AN EASEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RETAINING WALL EASEMENT AT 323 GEORGE STREET

OPEN PUBLIC – no comment
CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2024-17 is hereby adopted.
SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.

FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE 2024-19

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 265 FIRST STREET

MOVED by: Ms. Dato, that Ordinance #2024-19 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the November 6, 2024 meeting.
SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad, ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.

ORDINANCE 2024-20

BOND ORDINANCE REAPPROPRIATING \$2,319,285.48 PROCEEDS OF OBLIGATIONS NOT NEEDED FOR THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad, that Ordinance #2024-20 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the November 6, 2024 meeting.
SECONDED by: Ms. Dato, ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.

ORDINANCE 2024-21

BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 3(L) AND (M) AND SECTION 6(B) OF BOND ORDINANCE #2023-10 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, FINALLY ADOPTED JULY 19, 2023, IN THEIR ENTIRETY.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad, that Ordinance #2024-21 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the November 6, 2024 meeting.
SECONDED by: Ms. Dato, ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Conrad:

- Thanked the Fire Department and all volunteers for their work in keeping the residents safe.
- Reported that Sept. 15th through Oct. 10th is Hispanic Heritage Month and we should honor the diversity of Latin cultures in our community.
- Noted that today starts Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is on October 11th and 12th. Let's pay our respects to the Jewish community.
- Reported TNR is moving forward and he thinks the finished product will make everyone happy.
- Commented that some residents had mentioned various speeding issues in the City, perhaps we could look into traffic cameras.

Ms. Dato:

- Stated she was happy to see Ordinance 2024-20 introduced and she was sure the funds will be used for needed improvements.
- Thanked Mr. Rasimowicz and DPW for their work on the Lighthouse Bay project.
- Noted this was National Italian Month and Breast Cancer Awareness month as well as Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Wished the Jewish community a blessed and peaceful Rosh Hashanah.
- Noted the next beach sweep is scheduled for October 19th.
- Reminded everyone there is a Pickleball Tournament being hosted by the YMCA.
- Reviewed upcoming election information including Mail-in-Ballot information, early voting information and voter registration deadline.

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the food pantry and first responder volunteers for their continued efforts.
- Thanked Speaker Coughlin for giving the food pantry some of the donations raised from the "Bowl For Hunger" event.
- Asked the Council to look into obtaining the Veteran Friendly Municipality designation.

- Reported he had reviewed the handicap Ordinance and it needs updating.
- Reported the Cemetery Tour will take place on October 26th from 3:30 to 5pm.

Mr. Gross:

- Publicly apologized for scheduling South Amboy Day on October 12th which is also Yom Kippur. There was no slight intended to the Jewish community whatsoever.
- Noted the upcoming Beach Sweep day, upcoming South Amboy Day and that the TNR Ordinance is coming along. He thanked Mr. Kales for all his hard work.

Mayor Henry:

- Noted October 26th is the Halloween Parade as well as the previously mentioned Cemetery Tour.
- Reported that St. Mary's is having a blood drive on October 13th.
- Reported Sacred Heart Church is having a used clothing drive on October 19th and 20th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Anonymous spoke to the Council about using zoom for the Council meetings in order for the disabled to participate.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Conrad, seconded by Ms. Dato and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved October 16, 2024