

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 21, 2025

The Meeting was called to order by Council Vice President Dato at 7:00 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 Lenahan, Councilman Reilly and Councilman Gross

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Fred A. Henry, Dan Balka, CFO, Deborah Brooks, City Clerk, and Francis Womack, Esq. as well as department representatives: Mark Herdman, and City Engineer Rasimowicz

The Clerk read the Certification of Meeting Notice.

PROCLAMATION:

Mr. Reilly presented the proclamations to Ms. Stratton and Mr. O'Connor in front of friends and family.

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 Resolution NO. 25-120 through NO. 25-121 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Ms. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE: All in**

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- NO. 25-120 AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE TWO 2009 HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLES AND UPFITTING FOR THE SOUTH AMBOY POLICE DEPARTMENT

 - NO. 25-121 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

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 25-122
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 May 7, 2025 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 25-122 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Ms. Dato** **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly Abstain: Gross**

RESOLUTION NO. 24-123 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 May 15, 2025, as presented by the Chief Financial Officer.

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

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 25-123 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Lenahan. ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

ORDINANCE

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 2025-12

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 PARKING SPACE – 226 HENRY ST.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad, that Ordinance #2025-12 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the June 18, 2025 meeting.

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

ADOPTION/SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 2025-10

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 PARKING SPACE – 327 DAVID ST.

OPEN PUBLIC – no comment

CLOSE PUBLIC

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2025-09 is hereby adopted.

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

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Congratulated Mr. O’Connor and Ms. Stratton on being recognized for their efforts to improve the City of South Amboy.
- Thanked the food pantry and first responder volunteers.
- Wished everyone a happy Memorial Day.
- Sent condolences to the Piskorski and Moskwa families.
- Thanked the Szaro’s for a successful event hosted by the American Legion.

Mr. Lenahan:

- Thanked the first responders and volunteers noting they add to the quality of life of the City residents.
- Congratulated Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Statton for being honored by the City.
- Reminded everyone that the Luke A. Lovely Post cemetery walk starts at 9am at Christ Church cemetery and ends at the Veteran's Memorial Plaza.
- The City's yard sale is June 7th and 8th, contact the senior Center to sign up.
- Stated the original representative's from JCP&L that had presented to the Council have been replaced with a new team and hopes the pole removals will be moving ahead quickly.
- Wished everyone a happy Memorial Day.

Mr. Conrad:

- Welcomed the high school students attending the meeting.
- Congratulated Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Stratton on being honored by the City.
- Thanked the first aid and fire department volunteers and noted as we go into the holiday weekend we should reflect and be grateful to the men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedoms.

Ms. Dato:

- Reminded everyone that although the Memorial Day weekend kicks off the summer season, we need to honor those who we lost.
- Election day is June 10th – it is a very important Governor's race – only one of two states in this election are voting on a Governor.
- Reported that she had seen on Facebook that this week is Public Works Week and wanted to acknowledge the great behind the scenes work our DPW did.
- Congratulated Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Stratton.
- Welcomed the high school track team.

Mr. Gross:

- Thanked the Veteran's for their service and reminded everyone there are various services around town – take five minutes out of your day and honor those who sacrificed for our freedom.
- Noted South Amboy day is September 27th – there will be games, food, music and an obstacle course.

Mayor Henry:

- Congratulated Mr. O'Connors and Ms. Stratton noting Ed had been in his first class of students when he was a teacher. He added that he hoped some of the young people in the audience would take note and perhaps volunteer their own time.
- The Historical Society is doing a presentation of the 75th anniversary of the pier explosion in 1950.
- Asked everyone to take a few minutes to attend one of the Memorial Day services.
- Reported today the Senior Center had hosted a Lunch & Learn on aging and urged the residents to take advantage of the many programs the City offered.

Mr. Womack:

- Noted that North Brunswick will be hosting the Traveling Vietnam Memorial wall this Friday through Sunday. Mayor Henry noted there are 3 South Amboy names on that wall.

Mr. Rasimowicz:

- Reported construction on Broadway continues, businesses are open – please try and support your local businesses.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- The following students gave a power point presentation and spoke about the need for a new track and field at the high school: Brody Galiota, Ralph Lengyel, Journey Carol, Rawan Mohamed, Lily Falkaner, Megan Chen, John Kelly, Chris Cham, Janiyah Jimenez, Carmen Darcete, and Jaylah Dejesus. They discussed the current hazardous conditions of the field, the inability to host events at their school, the mental health benefits for both athletes and non-athletes to have a place where they could meet and be outside and clear their heads. They noted the field could be used for both school and community events and would benefit everyone.

Athletic Director Dunn reviewed the finances needed for the new field and noted the sports program had grown significantly in the two years he had been at the high school. He would be willing to connect the Mayor and Council with vendors to discuss the project.

- Ruth, Pine Avenue spoke about how the City is lucky to have Rutger's University and it' many campuses at our disposal.
- Sarah Bernal, 935 South Shore Drive, a new resident, spoke in support of the track team's request for a new field.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Conrad, seconded by Mr. Lenahan and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Brooks
Municipal Clerk
Approved 6-4-2025