

**MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 1, 2025**

The Meeting was called to order by Council President Gross 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 Lenahan, Councilman Reilly and Councilman Gross

ALSO PRESENT: David S. Kales, Business Administrator, Daniel Balka, CFO, Francis Womack, City Attorney, Katie Rose Walenty, Acting City Clerk, City Engineer, Mark Rasimowicz. The following department heads were also present: Greg Czoch, Mark Herdman, Kenneth Krass, Jason Valetutto, Kristal Manion.

The Clerk read the Certification of Meeting Notice.

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**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. 25-181 through NO. 25-186 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mrs. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** All in favor

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NO. 25-181 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND TO ANDREA BOULTON

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**RESOLUTIONS:**

NO. 25-182 RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP WITH SOUTH AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION ELIGIBILITY

Mr. Reilly asked which fire house Mr. Church would be joining, and he is joining Protection company.

NO. 25-183 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

Ms. Dato asked if this was a continuation of the Broadway improvements. CFO, Daniel Balka confirmed.

NO. 25-186 RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AN AWARD EXTENSION REQUEST FOR LA-2024 MA SOUTH AMBOY CITY BROADWAY, PHASE 2 - ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Ms. Dato asked why there is an extension for Broadway improvement. City Engineer, Mark Rasimowicz confirmed that it is an extension for 6 months because the grant needs to be rewarded by a certain date and Broadway Phase 1 is not completed.

NO. 25-184 RESOLUTION TERMINATING PARTICIPATION IN SHBP/SEHBP

NO. 25-185 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY TO JOIN THE NJ SOLUTION JOINT HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

Business Administrator, David Kales explained that there was a major increase in the costs of health insurance starting in 2026 and that his team was able to get a private plan with only a minor increase. All plans will be equal to or better than the current plans.

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-187**

**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 17, 2025 Council Meeting.

**MOVED by:** Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 25-187 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mr. Reilly **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross Abstain: Dato**

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-188 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 25, 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. 25-188 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mrs. Dato. ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor.**

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**COMMENTS:**

Mr. Reilly:

- Thanked the first responders and food pantry volunteers
- Welcomed the new Acting City Clerk, Katie Rose Walenty
- Stressed the importance of shopping local
- Consider volunteering in town for First Aid and Fire Department

Mr. Lenahan

- Congratulated Katie Rose Walenty, Acting City Clerk
- Thanked the Business Administrator and everyone involved in saving money on the insurance company change
- Thanked the first responders
- Family Sports Day on 10/7 at the library
- Live music at the Senior Center on 10/9 at 12pm
- Lunch and Learn for breast health at 12pm 10/15
- Rabies Clinic on 10/18 from 9a to 12p
- Paint contest at Senior Center 10/22 12p
- Free of charge seasonal flu shot 10/23
- Halloween parade on the 10/26

Mr. Conrad

- Thanked the First Aid and Fire Department for their continued service
- A need for volunteers for these 2 departments and the form on is on the City website
- South Amboy Day was held on 9/27. Thanked Councilman Mickey Gross, the City Administration, DPW and all involved
- American Legion will be honoring Bob Moglia and Gary Poland on 10/4
- Yom Kippur will start at sundown today and wanted to wish the Jewish residents well on the holiest day in the Jewish calendar
- Hispanic Heritage month - Oct 15 – we value your contributions to society and service to your country. The goal is to celebrate this more in the upcoming years

Ms. Dato

- Thanked the department heads for being here and their support
- Acknowledged Hispanic Heritage month for their rich cultures, history and how the population has changed dramatically which is wonderful
- Christ Church is hosting a Caribbean night October 18th
- Congratulated the Hometown Hunger Heros. Jared Gonsalves and Arvid Agosto, Jr. for creating the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning which helps replenish the food pantry
- Thank you to all that helped with South Amboy Day – Mr. Conrad and Mr. Gross and Jay Elliott
- October is Breast Cancer awareness month. There are free services to help with mammogram services.
- October 31 is the deadline for the Tax Relief program
- Election day is a month away and you can vote by mail and vote early
- Saturday in Roselle Park is a pancreatic cancer walk

Mr. Gross

- Thanked the Department heads for coming
- South Amboy Day was a success. Thanked the Mayor's office, Mr. Kales, Kathy Kudelka, Mark Herdman, Jay Elliot and Anthony Conrad
- Tip A Pint will be on November 6th at Teddys Bar to benefit the American Legion
- The St. Patrick's Day parade will be March 15<sup>th</sup>, and the Grand Marshalls are John Dragotta, Joe Britton, and Lee Steiner
- Middlesex County Health Department has a grant that will help provide free screenings for breast cancer
- Thanked Mr. Kales for the work on the health insurance

Mr. Kales

- Mr. Dan Balka and Mrs. Kathy Kudelka deserve the credit for the work on the health insurance
- The Best Practice score is higher than last year - working towards the 40s
- Thanked Department Heads for coming tonight and all the work they do
- Introduced Mr. Kenneth Krass as the new Acting DPW Director
- Welcomed Katie Rose to the City Clerk position
- On October 8<sup>th</sup> is Paint the Town Pink. Come to City Hall and volunteer. Call Patricia Polomene at the recreation department for more information
- South Amboy Day was a success and thanked Mr. Conrad, Mr. Gross and all the Department heads for their work

Francis Womack

- There will be a Venetian meeting upcoming in the next few weeks to wrap up litigation
- Middlesex County Joint Insurance Fund opposing the special assessment is ongoing

**COMMENTS:**

Joseph Szaro, 370 5th Street and Commander of the American Legion thanked the City and the DPW for the work at the Veteran Plaza keeping it clean. Noted that it is also Polish American heritage month. Thanked the City for approving the block party and DPW for keeping the street clean before and after.

Lou Nardiello, 33 Tappen Street from Port Reading, congratulated Ms. Dato on all her accomplishments. Congratulated Mr. Gross on his retirement from the County. Noted that The City of South Amboy has a great atmosphere, old family neighborly feeling and he enjoys coming to this City.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Rose Walenty  
Acting Municipal Clerk  
Approved 10/15/2025