

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2025

The Meeting was called to order by Council President Gross 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: David S. Kales, Business Administrator, Daniel Balka, CFO, Aaron Rainone, City Attorney representative, Katie Rose Walenty, Acting City Clerk, City Engineer, Mark Rasimowicz.

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.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution NO. 25-189 through NO. 25-193 are hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Gross. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-194

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 October 1, 2025 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mrs. Dato of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 25-194 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Conrad ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-195 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 October 9, 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. 25-195 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Gross. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

ADOPTION/SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 2025-11

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,305,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,189,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2025-11 is hereby adopted. **SECONDED by: Mrs. Dato**, **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

ADOPTION/SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 2025-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH AMBOY APPROVING AND ADOPTING AMENDED BEACH CLUB DISTRICT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

MOVED by: Mr. Reilly, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2025-15 is hereby adopted. **SECONDED by: Mrs. Dato**, **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

ADOPTION/SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 2025-16

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 233 CATHERINE AND 375 CONOVER STREET

MOVED by: Mr. Gross, of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Ordinance #2025-16 is hereby adopted. **SECONDED by: Mr. Lenahan**, **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 2025-17

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 REMOVING 108 DAVID STREET AND ADDING 248 HENRY STREET

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad, that Ordinance #2025-17 be introduced on first reading and advertised for second reading which is scheduled for the November 5, 2025 meeting. **SECONDED by: Mrs. Dato** **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Conrad, Dato, Lenahan, Reilly, Gross**

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly:

- Congratulated the 3 new police officers that were sworn in
- Thanked the first responders and food pantry volunteers

- Made a note about our organizations in town. Knights of Columbus, Friends of South Amboy, AOH and the Elks. The Elks is a charity organization, which donates a lot of money to scholarships, and they have 2 fundraisers coming up, Country Line dancing on 11/9 for \$10 dollars, a fall breakfast buffet on 10/19 for \$12, a steak dinner on 10/17 for \$28
- Continue to pursue opportunities and take advantage of the NJ Transit Village and to develop our waterfront
- Wear reflective gear or flashlights for visibility, use the sidewalks and homeowners make sure everything is well light for Halloween

Mr. Lenahan

- Congratulated the 3 new police officers and wished them good luck
- Thanked the first responders and volunteers
- Rabies Clinic on 10/18 from 9a to 12p
- Halloween parade on 10/26
- Early Voting starts on October 25th to November 2nd
- Halloween is 10/31, please keep an out for the kids
- 10/30 NJ property tax relief help at the Senior Center
- 11/6 Tip a Pint for the American Legion at Teddy's Bar 7p to 10p \$20 a ticket
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Mr. Conrad

- Congratulated the 3 new police officers and wished them good luck
- Thanked the First Aid, Fire Department and their families for their continued service
- Commented on Ordinance 25-11 – spending allocated money on ADA compliance in our buildings, parking upgrades, and purchase equipment for our police department/fire department and first aid
- Happy Diwali – celebration of lights on October 20th
- Hispanic Heritage month - Oct 15. The goal is to celebrate this more in the upcoming years
- Have a happy and safe Halloween

Ms. Dato

- Congratulated the new police officers – it takes a special person, bravery and sacrifice
- Christ Church is hosting a Caribbean night on October 18th - \$40 dollars
- Happy Halloween and be careful driving around with our kids walking around
- YMCA had a winter coat project for our students who were in need of winter jackets. They partnered with Friends of South Amboy, South Amboy Parade Committee, and the AOH and because of them 30 kids will get new winter jackets. Thank you to all and thank you for your generosity
- November 4th is election day. Reminder to vote, mail in and early voting. This is a very important election to get out and vote
- Reminder of the Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning which helps replenish the food pantry
- Daylight savings Sunday, November 2nd
- October 31st is the deadline for the Anchor Plan Tax Relief program and on October 30th there will be a representative from the state at the Senior Center to assist anyone who needs it
- Asked for an update on our ebike ordinance. Business Administrator David Kales noted that our City Attorney and Chief of Police are working on it

Mr. Gross

- Congratulated the new police officers

- Thank you to first responders and all city employees. We have the best city employees and are very proud of them

Mayor Fred A. Henry

- October 23rd is a free flu clinic at Senior Center
- October 30th at the Library there will be a free antique appraisal from 630p-8pm
- Please check out the City website for all updates on events
- Congratulations to the new officers, who worked hard at the academy, they are a great addition to our great and fine police department

Mark Rasimowicz

- Contractor will resume work on crosswalks and install trees along Broadway

COMMENTS:

Brandon Russell, South Amboy, New Jersey

1. When will audio and visual upgrades be taking place for the Council Chambers? Mr. Gross said they are looking into it. Business Administrator, David Kales said not in 2025 but in the beginning of 2026
2. Asked for the status of the Venetian meeting. Mr. Kales stated the scheduled meeting had to be pushed off because our City attorney is out of town
3. Asked how much PILOT funding does this current Mayor and Council plan to share with the school district next year? Council President Mickey Gross said they are currently putting together the budget for next year, it will be considered, there are conversations being done and renegotiations on a current PILOT.
4. On the renegotiated PILOT – when should Council expect for it to be proposed to them. Mr. Kales said they are expecting a first reading on November 24th. Brandon stated at a SARA meeting the line item that was mentioned for next year would come exclusively from this PILOT but he hopes this discussion would be for all PILOTs not just this renegotiated PILOT. As well as language to be in there to protect schools because it is long overdue that the City shares the gross amount of revenue with the schools.
5. Asked if the city is slightly over budget on the Ferry project and he would like a deeper explanation on the budget. Mr. Kales said they are running close to budget. There was extra contaminated soil, but it will probably go over 3 to 5 percent.

Brianne Peters, Highland Park, New Jersey

- Wanted the Council to support a resolution for the Immigration Trust Act.
- Their team and community members are at New Brunswick and other council meetings throughout New Jersey.

Jacob Daniels, Highland Park, New Jersey

- Urge Council to support the Immigrant Trust Act to protect our immigrant neighbors.

Michael Hall, South Amboy, New Jersey

- Recommends making it a requirement for registrations for ebikes, scooters, roller skates in the new ordinance.

Leslie Tighe, South Amboy, New Jersey

- Received a letter for an 18-unit apartment building along Raritan Street and Conover. Wants to review the documents before the meeting and clarify who AZ Holdings is.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Conrad, seconded by Mrs. Dato and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Rose Walenty
Acting Municipal Clerk
Approved 11-5-2025