

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 4, 2026

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: Mayor Fred A. Henry, Katie Rose Walenty, Acting City Clerk, Aaron Rainon, Law Director. Additionally, the following department representatives were present: Zoning Officer Jason Valetutto

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. 26-060 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by:** Mrs. Dato. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Conrad, Mrs. Dato, Mr. Reilly, Mr. Gross. Abstain: Mr. Lenahan**

NO. 26-060 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59

RESOLUTION NO. 26-061

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 January 21, 2026 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 26-061 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Reilly** **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Conrad, Mrs. Dato, Mr. Lenahan, Mr. Reilly, Mr. Gross**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-062

APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of South Amboy does hereby approve and release the Closed Executive Session Council Minutes of the January 21, 2026 Council Meeting.

MOVED by: Mr. Conrad of the Council of the City of South Amboy, that Resolution No. 26-062 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mrs. Dato** **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Conrad, Mrs. Dato, Mr. Lenahan, Mr. Reilly, Mr. Gross**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-063

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 January 29, 2026, 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. 26-063 is hereby approved. **SECONDED by: Mr. Lenahan. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Mr. Conrad, Mrs. Dato, Mr. Lenahan, Mr. Reilly, Mr. Gross**

COMMENTS:

Mr. Reilly

- Thank you, first responders and food pantry volunteers.
- 2/18 we will be recognizing St Mary’s Church Food Pantry and First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry.
- Thank you, First Aid and Fire Department, for being on standby for many hours during the snowstorm.
- Government week April 12th - 18th. April 14th – session with Council at the Arts District to talk to your Council one on one. April 15th – Mock Council meeting with the 5th grade students from the Elementary school. On the same night, we will be recognizing some outstanding citizens and as well as announcing the essay winners. April 16th, David Kales, Business Administrator, will read a story at the library.
- March 18th we are going to have the Boys Basketball team to recognize them for winning the Division.
- School referendum probably would not be needed if Pilots weren’t given.

Mr. Lenahan

- Thank you, all volunteers and first responders.
- Daddy/Daughter dance is being held at the VFW on Jernee Mill Road. February 21st 7-10pm. Proceeds to benefit local charities.
- City did a wonderful job with the snowstorm. Snow removal was being done on Broadway and Stevens Avenue, then moving to Pine Avenue and all school property on Saturday. All that snow has been dropped at Veteran’s Field with the blessing of the EPA.

Mrs. Dato

- Valentine’s Day is February 14th. Don’t forget about your sweethearts.
- There is lunch at the Senior Center on February 13th.
- Senior Center lunch and learn schedule February 18th.
- Black History Month celebrated by the school on Thursday February 6th starts at 6pm.
- Historical Society is holding an event at the Senior Center on George and Martha Washington on March 8th from 10am-12pm for \$5.00. Mayor clarified that the price is a donation.
- Papa John’s Grand Opening is February 7th, and you should receive coupons in the mail.
- Blood Drive being held at St. Mary’s on February 15th from 8am-12pm

- With the frigid weather continuing please check on your neighbors and seniors.
- Thank you to Jason Valetutto for being here.

Mr. Conrad

- I'm very grateful to the DPW during the snowstorm and the aftermath. The crew was working around the clock.
- Fire Department, First Aid, and OEM, slept in their buildings and I want to thank you for your service.
- Black History began February 1st marking 100 years of Black History Month. It was brought into existence by Dr. Carter G. Woodson. It is important to reflect on the history and story.
- Valentine's Day is upon us so Happy Valentine's Day to my wife and daughter.
- Happy birthday to George Washington with Presidents Day coming upon us.

Mr. Gross

- Thank you to our DPW for all they did.
- Recognizing Jason Valetutto, no one does a better job than Jason. Thank you for all you do.

Mayor Fred Henry

- I would have made the comments about Grand Opening for Papa Johns, Blood Drive, George and Martha Washington, Black History Month, etc.
- Our DPW workers worked over 36 hours straight and within 24 hours the roads were accessible to the Fire Dept, First Aid, and Police. They did a great job.

Mr. Rainone

- I wanted to echo all the comments pertaining to DPW not just here but throughout the state of all the work they put in is spectacular.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Mr. Conrad, seconded by Mrs. Dato and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Rose Walenty
Acting Municipal Clerk
Approved 2-18-2026