



**CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
500 Mill Road
Absecon, New Jersey 08201**

**OCTOBER 16, 2014
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Seher at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

INVOCATION – Moment of Silence

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Vizthum, Camp, Horton, Cain, Phillips, Ring, Seher

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Armstrong, City Solicitor, Tim Maguire; Jessica Thompson; Carie Crone

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW – Council President Seher
NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

REPORTS

Councilwoman Cain – Public Works – announced the fall leaf schedule will begin 11/3 through 12/31. A map will be put on the website. The new front end loader has arrived and the old loader has been sold for \$22,300. The new generator for the Public Works building has been installed. We submitted the 2015 application for state aid for road work next year and the priorities are full construction of Pennsylvania Ave. from Pitney to Austin and Woodcrest Avenue from Pitney to NY Ave. Res. #166 tonight authorizes Asphalt Paving the 2014 road program in the amount of \$623,272.50 and the list of streets will be put on the website. The tennis courts work will hopefully begin soon. Res. #163 eliminating the right turn prohibition onto Woodcrest is on the agenda. It's not really needed anymore so we are asking the county for that approval. Next meeting is 11/20 @ 3:30.

Councilman Vizthum – Public Safety – met last week and Jim Eberwine gave a brief presentation on the Ebola crisis. Discussed the radios upgrade for 911 and the EMS staff will hopefully meeting at their 12/2 meeting.

Councilman Phillips – Parks & Playgrounds – nothing new since his last meeting on 9/16. His next meeting is 10/21. Curbing in the park will be part of the road program this fall.

Councilman Camp – Finance – met tonight and went over the new mercantile license ordinance to be introduced. Minor increases for businesses of \$25 will be incurred and a new restructuring fee for the hotels will be implemented. It should be on the website for everyone to see. A new person was hired for the finance office named Shannon Sullivan from Galloway at \$20/hr for 28 hours/week – 4 days a week with no benefits given. A property was donated to us, which is back behind the ball

fields that Public Works has been using for many years and it's landlocked. The ordinance will be introduced tonight.

Mayor – the policies for accepting donations by the County are what we will be following. He explained the ordinance for tonight and read the policy and procedures and also a letter from the family donating the land from 5/13.

Councilman Ring – Community Affairs – Announced upcoming events in town. Trick or treating will be from 6-8 p.m. Blue barrels will be throughout town to collect food for the food bank. The 9/11 committee has decided that the Shores site will not be a good idea now especially with the improvements to be done there; the firehouse was a problem with the apparatus and parking and the corner is out of the question. They went back to the Heritage Park site and realized the path and boulder would have to be moved, so they are recommending across the street at Mill Rd. & Delaware Avenue behind the cell tower. A flash lighting and cameras would be installed. If council agrees, notices would go out and it would be put on the agenda for discussion.

Chris – trees would have to come down, but a buffer would be left between the cell tower and the memorial. We can discuss this tonight and if everyone agrees, we will put it on the 11/6 meeting for public comment.

Councilwoman Horton – Economic Development – no report – next mtg. 11/6 @ 6:30

Administrator – spoke on Res. #160 and 161 dealing with escrow fees; 159 money received for police vests; 164 dealing with a JIF contract changing the name of the administrator; Ord. #19 is adding the title and salary range for the new position.

Mayor – explained Ord. #20 that deals with COAH and our affordable housing.

MONTHLY REPORTS – Carie

Municipal Court - \$10,523.91

Construction - \$8,551

Clerk's Office - \$3,465

Tax Collection - \$285,361.83

Mayor – attended a meeting with the DEP with regards to our FEMA applications for Turner Ave. and the Kunkley property. Our applications should be filed shortly and hopefully permit approvals will be received the beginning of 2015.

Mike – did anyone ever look at getting a light installed at Turner Avenue?

Mayor – the chief did a summary of accidents and in the past 8 months, there have been 11 and 8 out of them have happened with vehicles going west. We did ask the State about that and initially they said we would have to pay 50% of the cost of that and then they found out we are eligible for potential funding, but we are 137 on the list.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Fred Green – 203 Woodcrest Ave. – discussed the donation of lands to the city. His father wanted to donate some land a couple years back, but the costs were between \$2,500 and \$3,500 for the testing to be done before the city would take it over. Who would pay that kind of money?

Mayor – gave some background on this piece of property that is surrounded by city lands and has had prior activity on it by the City. There will be no need for an environmental study on this piece. He initiated getting this information to allow the Council to evaluate the donation of land.

Chris – explained the procedure that occurs and how each case is handled differently

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Ring
All were in favor.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2014 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

- 19** An Ordinance amending Ordinance 14-2014, salary ranges for the City of Absecon.

Motion for introduction – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

- 20** An Ordinance providing Chapter 225-2014 “Affordable Housing” of the Code of The City of Absecon to address the requirements of the Council of Affordable Housing and Uniform Housing Affordability Controls.

Motion for introduction – Councilman Ring – second – Councilwoman Horton

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

- 21** Accepting conveyance of lands known as Block 72, Lot 3 on the Absecon City Tax Map as a gift and authorizing City representatives to take those actions reasonably required to effect such conveyance.

Motion for introduction – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

Frank – he was new on council when Mr. Green wanted to donate his land to the city and there was discussion and it was tabled so he could be looked into as to how to handle it. He now sees this ordinance for the first time tonight and we’ve had some discussion on it, but wants to be sure we are being fair to the citizens of Absecon who want to donate to us. He understands each situation is unique in its own way and have to look at each one differently. He would like more time to evaluate this. He will ask for it to be tabled or be abstaining tonight.

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, abstain; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

CONSENT AGENDA

- 160** Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to cancel escrow accounts of completed projects with a balance of twenty-five dollars or less.
- 161** Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund escrow accounts of completed projects with a balance above twenty-five dollars.
- 162** Approving the insertion of a special item of revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget to allow for the receipt of \$2,608.78 for the State of New Jersey Body Armor Fund.
- 163** Requesting the County of Atlantic to consider the removal of the right turn prohibition on southbound Pitney Road at Woodcrest Avenue.
- 164** Appointing a contact person for the Employment Practices Liability Helpline for the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund.

- 165 Appointing a Part-Time Finance Specialist, namely Shannon Sullivan.
- 166 Authorizing the City of Absecon to award the contract for the 2014 Road Improvement Program.
- 167 Authorizing the Mayor to sign a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Application for Treatment Works Approval.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under item, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be discussed separately.

Resolutions 160 to 167 will be included in the consent agenda.

Motion to approve consent agenda – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,588,979.39

Motion to approve – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes, abstain on A0005; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 10/02/14

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Cain, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Phillips

All were in favor.

Motion to close to the public – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Phillips

All were in favor.

Discussion was held on the right-hand turn being removed coming south on Pitney Road at Woodcrest Ave.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Camp

All were in favor.

Respectfully,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 11-6-14