



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

**Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk**

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**NOVEMBER 6, 2014
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

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

FLAG SALUTE

INVOCATION – Rev. Dean Bult, Mainland Baptist Church

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Cain

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

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

PRESENTATION – by the office of NJ Homeland Security and Preparedness – Police Chief Dave Risley introduced Fred Scalera and William Drew to explain a program that has been started with a technology called First Net, which would be like the Verizon of the Federal Government for Public Safety. They are building a national network and they are working on NJ's now. Trailers and towers are needed at certain locations and the trailers would take up two parking spaces and will use some electricity, equivalent to leaving a 150 watt bulb on all year long. They hope to be up and running by June of next year. It would be beneficial to police departments all around with new technology at no cost to them. A Memorandum of Agreement will be submitted for approval and signatures to the City.

PUBLIC HEARING – 911 Memorial monument site

Councilman Ring – explained the process to this point.

Motion to open to public – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Phillips

All were in favor.

No public discussion.

Motion to close – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Camp

All were in favor.

Council President, Seher – we had our public hearing and since there was a consensus from Council that the Mill Rd. & Delaware site is the best, it will go back to the committee and when they are ready for something from us, we will do it then.

Mayor – for the record, prior to the hearing tonight, the property owners within 200 ft. of this site was sent a notice and it was also put on our website.

REPORTS

Council President, Seher – congratulated Jim and Kim for their re-election to council and congratulated Jim Grimley and Greg Sugden for running good campaigns. They are good qualified people and he hopes they continue to participate in local government.

Councilwoman Cain – Public Works – Sandy away and no updates

Councilman Vizthum – Public Safety – his meeting was cancelled due to elections, so the next one is 12/2 @ 7 p.m. and EMS personnel are invited.

Councilman Phillips – Parks & Playgrounds – they met on the 10/21 and the Green Team came to discuss the habitat restoration for Heritage Park. US Fish and Wildlife would fund all the vegetation around the pond, to control the geese. It's still in the talking stages though. They also discussed the wagon wheel at the fields on Pitney Road and the upkeep of it and making it safer. They have made a list of what they would like completed and are waiting to see what the costs will be.

Councilwoman Horton – Economic Development – thanked the residents for their support and Greg Sugden, who was a great running mate and Jim Grimley for a good campaign. The owner of 40 N. Shore Road is continuing talking to the lending institution in regards to the release of the mortgage and then we can work on the grant. Downtown business are interested in loans to rehab their facades. She asked Eddie about the progress on the old Girl Scout Lodge. Her next meeting is 12/4. **Eddie** – we are waiting for the test results to come back. As long as everything is okay, we can then discuss demolition.

Councilman Ring – Community Affairs – congratulated everyone who ran in the election. Announced the upcoming Christmas Bazaars and the ABCD Holiday Fair on 11/29 and other events. His next meeting will be held on 12/4 at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Camp – Finance – two ordinances are to be introduced for the Construction Code and Mercantile Licenses. Construction rates are being raised to be compatible with surrounding areas. He stated the differences and amounts with the Mercantile Licenses.

Mayor – he explained what is happening with NJDOT dredging the Creek in Absecon and hopefully it will happen next June.

Administrator – Resolutions 168, 169, 170 and 171 were explained. The estimate for the backstop issues is \$66,000 and they would like to start the bonding process now and be able to go out to bid so the work could be done before the season starts in the spring. We need to come up with the 5% or \$3,300 for the bonding. RFP's for the professionals will be prepared soon as well as the budget process starting. Some background checks have been approved and others are in stages and some not back at all.

Eddie Dennis – the road program is in the process with the contractor and hopes some work can get done this Fall and completed in the Spring. The tennis court work has begun and he will be meeting with FEMA on Monday to follow up with the two projects. He described the project at the old Kunkley property and it will go to the Parks and Playgrounds Committee for their comments also.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Ring
All were in favor.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Phillips
All were in favor.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2014 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

22 An Ordinance amending Chapter 234 of the Code of the City of Absecon as the same relates to Mercantile Licenses.

Motion for introduction – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Horton
ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

23 An Ordinance amending Chapter 160 of the Code of the City of Absecon as the same relates to Construction Fees.

Motion for introduction – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Vizthum
ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

24 Amending Chapter 224 – Land Use and Development, Article XXVI – Fees and Escrows.

Motion for introduction – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Camp
ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

2014 ORDINANCES FOR FINAL ADOPTION

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

Motion for second reading – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Ring
ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, Seher, yes

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

Jessica - This is creating a position of a finance specialist.

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close public – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Ring

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, 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 second reading – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Camp

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

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Camp

All were in favor. No public comment.

Mayor – this is a housekeeping item that we include in our local ordinance several provisions of the COAH regulations

Motion to close public – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Camp

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, 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 second reading – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Horton

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

Motion to open to the public – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Vizthum

All were in favor. No public comment.

Chris – this is accepting a piece of property that is uniquely located within our Pitney Park complex that the city has used over the years for trash relocation and distribution and we are taking it as a gift

Motion to close public – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Ring

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Horton

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- 168** Authorizing the City of Absecon to enter into a contract with Woodruff Energy for the delivery of natural gas for use by the City.
- 169** Approving the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the 2014 Municipal Budget to allow for the receipt of \$7,489.59 from the State of New Jersey Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund.
- 170** Authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes on the property located at 122 Davis Avenue.
- 171** Authorizing the Mayor to execute Utility Easement Agreements with Atlantic City Electric Company for the purpose of rebuilding a portion of its existing transmission and distribution lines on city-owned lands identified herein.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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 168-171 will be included in the consent agenda.

Motion to approve consent agenda – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,314,366.00

Motion to approve – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Vizthum, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes, Phillips, yes; Ring, yes abstained on 9831; 9837, C0128, C0221, F0095; Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 10/16/14

Motion to approve – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Ring

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

Jim – received a text from Jim Eberwine, our Emergency Management Coordinator saying he was called late today to do a Nor'easter segment for the 11:00 news on TV40, which was filmed down at the docks on Faunce Landing Road.

ADJOURNMENT

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

All were in favor.

Respectfully,

Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: _____