



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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Municipal Clerk

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CITY COUNCIL

MAY 7, 2015
WORK & REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

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

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

INVOCATION – Lay Leader, Barbara Sabath, Absecon UMC

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Armstrong, Tim Maguire, Jessica Thompson, Carie Crone, Eddie Dennis

STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW - Chris

NOTIFICATION OF MEETING BEING RECORDED – Chris

REPORTS

Sandy – Public Works – no report. Next meeting is 5/21 @3:30 p.m.

Jim – Public Safety – two candidates are being accepted tonight. One member is retiring after 50 years of service. The truck and building maintenance is ongoing at the firehouse. Sent his best wishes to a member who was injured. The EMT are fully staffed now with 18 paid and 28 volunteers. Changes have been made by the State for them to offer more care, which will now allow some billable items and they will need to get council's approval. They will be preparing a new Ordinance for Curfews. The DARE program has ended and the new DARE America will start. Hooked on Fishing is 6/13 and National Night Out is 8/4. Explained Res. #91 on the agenda for accepting money for the Click It or Ticket program and Res. #95 for the boat ramp permits.

Chief DeRitis - the arrest on the local dr. and his drug ring was huge for the department. He commended Lee Gadd for this. He explained the change in the DARE program.

Frank - Parks & Playground – the committee decided that would like to go with a new company instead of shared services with Galloway for the id badges for the coaches. He then explained how it would work. The backstops are done at the ball field and are working well. Next meeting is 5/19.

Don – Finance – spoke on Res. #80 for the fire sub code official. It will be a 60 day period and have more time to see how they will work it. His next meeting is 5/21 at 6:00 p.m.

Mike – asked if a fire dept. member could get certifications for handling the fire sub code work

Chris – wanted clarification regarding the DCA notification and asked Jessica to get answers to some other questions he had

Mike – Community Affairs – met tonight and he then announced upcoming events in the area. Historical Society building has been repaired and will be having their event on 5/16 from 11-2 p.m. It was heard that the Pitney House is up for sale, which is the oldest building in town and they hope it doesn't turn into a doctor's office. They will be reviewing the Ordinance dealing with commercial vehicles being parked in residential zones. His next meeting is 6/4 at 6:00 p.m. Wished all the Moms a Happy Mother's Day.

Kim – Economic Development – she attended a League of Municipalities meeting and they had a speaker who talked about a Community Showcase Video Program. She will come to a committee meeting to explain more to them how Absecon could benefit. They discussed rehabilitation grants and hopefully they will secure a grant. She explained Res. #83 where the school is moving forward for a safe way for kids to get to school. Next meeting is 6/4 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor – he received formal notice from the DOT for municipal aid this year has been denied again for three years out of the four now. They have been able to get about \$200,000 for our road program in the past. He reached out to Sen. Whelan who is reaching out to DOT. It's not over yet. There is a resolution for tonight dealing with the Visions project that they need in order to close on their loan. He then explained what is happening with the COAH obligations, third round numbers and the Fair Share Housing group. He attended a meeting with County representatives regarding their redevelopment plan and how they are accepting 5 applications from cities to help out with theirs. We are working on our application and will submit it and hopefully receive money to help us.

Rob Reid – explained the Train Station Overlay District in the city that would hopefully go towards our third round obligations for affordable housing

Jessica – spoke with Mayor Elco and he will be coming in to discuss the Veteran's sign. Tonight is the second reading for the bond ordinance and Res. #81 has been done for years and we get good rates for electric. #84, 85 and 86 are return of escrow funds; 87, 88 and 89 are refund of taxes; 94 is a return of a deposit and 98 is to advertise for a part time Deputy Clerk and tax clerk, since we are having two retirements and we need to fill positions.

Chris – we received paperwork for the retirement of two women in the Tax Office, so we need to fill positions. The agenda that went out only had resolutions up to 94. Tonight's has 95, 96, 97 and 98 would be added to the agenda if approved. Part time would be as many hours as possible to the full time eligibility, cutting the costs for the city. Res. 92 is the new Zoning Board member and there is one more vacancy.

Motion to add those resolutions to the agenda – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Camp

All were in favor.

Eddie – two of the tennis courts will open this weekend. The 2014 Road Program is under construction and he commends the residents on the streets under repair for being polite and understanding with their comments and complaints. Quotes are being received for the Girl Scout Lodge. The 2015 Road Program should be out to bid in June and the Absecon Creek project permitting process has begun and hopefully back by the summer in order to begin.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

All were in favor.

Rob Reid – 366 Upland Ave. – as President of the Historical Society, he explained the repairs to Howlett Hall and they now expect to reseal it every 3-5 years to keep it up. It's safe to come in the building now. He has seen the development plan for Absecon Creek and he supports it and is very pleased with it. He thanked Eddie Dennis and his team for working on it.

Chris – very thankful it was done, but wondered if the building got inspected to make sure it's safe. A presentation of the Absecon Creek project will be given in the near future.

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

All were in favor.

REGULAR MEETING

2015 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

05 Bond Ordinance providing for various Capital Improvements, appropriating \$950,900.00 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$903,355.00 Bonds or Notes of the City to finance part of the cost thereof.

Motion for second reading – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Horton

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

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

All were in favor. No public comment.

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

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by this 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 considered separately.

80 Authorizing the appointment of a temporary Fire Sub Code Official.

81 Authorizing the award of contract for the provision of electric generation supply service for the South Jersey Power Cooperative.

82 Accepting a volunteer Fire Fighter, namely Kaly Goldstein and Chase Malia

- 83 Supporting New Jersey Safe Routes to School.
- 84 Authorizing the release of escrows posted by Quresh Dahodwala.
- 85 Authorizing the release of a Maintenance Guarantee posted by TFJR Associates, LP.
- 86 Authorizing the release of escrows posted by Steven Ratzlaff.
- 87 Authorizing refunds of overpayments of taxes on several properties due to total exempt Disabled Veterans Deductions.
- 88 Authorizing refunds of overpayments of taxes on several properties due to the Homestead Rebate.
- 89 Authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes on the property located at 200 Hobart Ave. (Block 9.01, Lot 11).
- 90 Supporting the *Click It or Ticket* Mobilization of May 18-31, 2015.
- 91 Approving the insertion of a special item of revenue into the 2015 municipal budget to allow for the receipt of \$4,000.00 for the State of New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety – Click It or Ticket.
- 92 Appointing a member to the Zoning Board, namely Marina Koussoulis.
- 93 Allowing for the Absecon Education’s Foundations annual City-wide Yard Sale.
- 94 Authorizing the acceptance of, and when authorized, the release of various street opening permit security deposits.
- 95 Authorizing the City Clerk to issue Boat Ramp Permits to local Marinas.
- 96 Requesting the Legislature and the Administration to adopt a new, more sensible approach to affordable housing in New Jersey to provide guidance and certainty for the orderly and realistic development of Affordable Housing in New Jersey.
- 97 Affirming and memorializing that the conditions of Resolution 157-2013 have been satisfied.
- 98 Authorizing to advertise for a part time Deputy Clerk and a part time Tax Clerk.

Resolutions #80 to #98 were moved in the Consent Agenda.

Motion to move consent agenda – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilwoman Cain

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,320,982.72

Motion to approve – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Camp, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, abstain on 9831; Vizthum, yes; Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes –4/16/2015

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

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

PUBLIC PORTION

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

All were in favor.

No public comment

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

All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 5-21-15