



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

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Municipal Clerk

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CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 15, 2015
WORK & REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

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

FLAG SALUTE

INVOCATION – Pastor Younger, Living Water Wesleyan Church, Pleasantville

ROLL CALL

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

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

STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW

NOTIFICATION OF MEETING BEING RECORDED

REPORTS

Sandy - Public Works – met today and the 2015 road program is in progress. The concrete work is complete and Mechanic will be done soon when the water company is finished with their work. Pennsylvania Ave. is being done also. The Girl Scout Lodge is down and being reseeded. The 2016 State Aid application will be submitted on Monday and hopefully we will get money for 2016. The Turner Ave. project will be ready to begin soon. Leaf collection begins Nov. 2nd and will be on the website. Marin Drive has a problem with lights being out so Jessica will be contacting AC Electric. They discussed the speeding problems at Traymore and Haddon Avenues. Her next meeting will be 11/19 @ 3:30 p.m.

Frank – explained the process of the paving for our road program and why we only get one bidder.

Jim - Public Safety – they mainly discussed the road closings due to the high tides. There are 2 graduating officers from the Academy in December and the class 2 officers are working on traffic and court now. Fire Prevention is this week and the fire department fund drive is starting and mailings will go out. Maintenance on some trucks is needed and Nov. 19th will be a change of command ceremony. We are trying to get a military vehicle to use during emergency situations. His next meeting is 11/3. Asked residents to be careful on Halloween night with the kids.

Chief DeRitis – The storm went great and the State and County stepped up this time. He had a great meeting yesterday with Linda Smith, who works for the management company that has taken over the Red Roof Inn and they have strong feelings about cleaning up the property and turning it around. We will have extra patrols out on Halloween night.

Frank - Parks & Playground – his next meeting is 10/20. We went out for rebid on the baseball fields Phase II and made some adjustments. Five bids came in and it was awarded to Command Inc. He asked council to look at the 9-hole miniature golf course that is proposed by the Field of Dreams and they are starting soon. Asked residents to drive safely and slow down.

Don – Finance – Police overtime is down \$40,000 from last year. We are working on our properties that have municipal liens and we had 51 and 5 have paid so far. His next meeting is 11/19.

Chris – asked Jessica when budget talks will begin

Jessica – waiting for numbers to come in but we can start soon

Mike – Community Affairs – Res. #168 and 172 are raffle resolutions. Announced upcoming events. Wished all the candidates good luck in November's election. His next meeting is 11/5.

Chris – asked what the progress is on the vehicle ordinance that was being drafted

Kim – Economic Development – her next meeting is 11/5 @ 6:30. ABCD is having their meeting on the 22nd at the Absecon Gardens. On 10/22 the school will be displaying their peace project.

Chris – asked what the next step is with the old Girl Scout Lodge site

Kim – we keep discussing it, but all are not on board. With the economic times, it may not be a good time to sell.

Discussion on vacant lots and real estate sales in Absecon was held.

Mayor – we are moving forward with our efforts to bring the foreclosing banks into compliance with our maintenance code. The list is being created and goes back to 2009 and letters will go out and he hopes with the fine being \$1,500, it might get their attention. Talked more about the military vehicle that would be used in emergency situations. With leaf pickup, the acorns and branches are not able to get picked up by our machines. They need to be disposed of through the yard waste collection program. Another problem in town are off premises commercial signs being put up. When they are seen, they are getting picked up. He has a meeting with The Improvement Authority and Atlantic Cape Community College about people trying to get into the culinary business and the possibility of using their kitchen in AC on off times. It would be nice for us to have a downtown bakery again. He is asking for a closed session tonight to discuss our ongoing fair housing litigation. We are back in the battle because of the third round obligation.

Jessica – explained Res. #170 deals with our street policy and brings us in state compliance; Res. #169 cancels unexpected bonds. Announced upcoming JIF dinner meetings for 12/2 or 2/10, both in Vineland. Ordinances #14 and 15 are on for second reading.

Monthly Reports - Carie

Tax - \$504,849.09

Construction - \$8,043

Clerk - \$3,043.20

Court - \$13,217.75

PUBLIC PORTION

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

All were in favor. No public comment

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

All were in favor.

REGULAR MEETING

2015 ORDINANCES

14 Establishing salary ranges for the City of Absecon.

Motion for second reading – Councilman Camp – second – Councilman Ring

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

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Ring – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

Motion to close public – Councilman Ring – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor.

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

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

15 Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 330 – Vehicles and Traffic, Section 32 – Turn Prohibitions, prohibiting left hand turns by northbound vehicular traffic traveling on Route 9 into lots 2, 3 and 11 in Block 289.

Motion for second reading – Councilman Ring – second – Councilman Phillips

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

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

All were in favor.

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

All were in favor.

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

168 Granting a Raffle License to Holy Spirit High School, Inc.

169 Canceling unexpended balances of Bond Ordinances.

170 Establishing and adopting a complete streets policy for the City of Absecon.

171 Awarding the contract for the Pitney Park Baseball Field Improvements – Phase II.

172 Granting a Raffle License to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

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.

Motion to move consent agenda – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$1,303,327.62

Motion to approve – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Cain

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes –10/01/15

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

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

PUBLIC PORTION

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

All were in favor. No public comment

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

All were in favor.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution #173-2015

Tim – stated the reason as pending litigation or contract negotiations dealing regarding COAH. This may take 10 to 15 minutes and action may be taken afterwards.

Motion to enter closed session – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Tim – it’s now 8:42 p.m. and we discussed one item only and that was an update concerning the COAH litigation and our representation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 11-5-15