



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

**APRIL 17, 2014  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Council Pro Tem Vizthum at 7:00 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**INVOCATION** – a moment of silence was held

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Vizthum, Camp, Horton, Phillips, Seher (called in)

**ABSENT:** Cain, Ring

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Armstrong; City Administrator, Tom Henshaw; CFO, Jessica Thompson; City Clerk, Carie Crone

**PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW  
NOTIFICATION OF MEETING**

**PUBLIC PORTION**

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

All were in favor. No public comment.

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

All were in favor.

**PUBLIC HEARING – 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor.

**Councilman Camp** – The budget for 2014 is \$9,863,535.39 and is \$20,000 less than the 2013 budget, excluding grants. It is using \$363,000 of surplus. Amount for taxes is the same as last year with no tax increase. State Aid is also the same as last year and he listed off budget items and what areas had a savings this year.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor.

**REPORTS**

**Mayor** – just wanted to say that he is pleased with this budget and council should as well. It was a great cooperation putting it together. It’s a conservative budget in a difficult time with this economy.

**Councilwoman Horton – Economic Development** – they will not meet until next month, but she reminded the public of some upcoming events.

**Councilman Phillips – Parks & Playground** – they met on 4/15 and the field scheduling is complete; the Concerts in the Park schedule has also been finished. There are some drainage problems on the fields and the Public Works department is looking into it. The lighting that needed to be addressed at the soccer field is being taken care of and there are some minor repairs to the clubhouses, football fields and roof repairs.

**Public Works** – met today and the road program from 2013 should begin in May. Lisbon Ave., Burning Tree and some others will be done. In July other streets that are not prioritized yet, will get done; possibly New York Avenue, Connecticut Avenue and Pennsylvania Ave. The signs for the Veteran’s Memorial Parkway is going to be donated, which will be located closer to St. James Place and New Jersey Avenue. The estimates are in for the tennis court repairs and hopes that it will get tied in with the road program. FEMA grants for the Kunkley property and Turner Avenue should be coming in soon and hopes progress will be seen soon.

**Council President, Seher** – no report

**Councilman Camp** – reported earlier on the budget

**Administrator, Tom Henshaw** – NJ Transit will be replacing all three bus shelters in town since they are so old. He is working with AC Electric and Comcast for cameras on Faunce Landing Road.

**CFO, Jessica Thompson** – once the resolution is voted on tonight we can move ahead with a lot of the plans that are in the budget.

**City Clerk, Carie Crone** – gave monthly reports for March: Court - \$12,146.21; Tax - \$936,066.37; Construction - \$5,279 and Clerk’s office - \$5,834.00

## **PUBLIC PORTION**

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Camp  
All were in favor.

**Bern Roswell – 202 Boulder Court** – wanted to know the status of Ord. #2-2014. A second reading had to be done.

**Mayor** – Council needs to set a date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing and it needs to be advertised.

Motion to close public – Councilman Camp – second – Councilwoman Horton  
All were in favor.

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **2014 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION**

- 05** Authorizing Criminal History Record Background Checks for Employees and Volunteers involved with City Programs or Services that can/will have contact with minors.

**Councilman Phillips** – asked that it be tabled since the revised draft was just received tonight and also until we have a full Council in order to get input from everybody.

### **TABLED**

- 10** Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 250 – Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation Areas in its entirety

Motion for introduction – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Camp

**Mayor** – it’s updating our current ordinance, but establishes much more comprehensive conditions for use of our fields. It expands and updates restrictions on activities on the fields as well as the parks. He feels it’s a real improvement over the old ordinance.

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

## 2014 ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION

- 08** Bond Ordinance providing for various capital improvements in and by the City of Absecon, appropriating \$1,260,000 therefore and authorizing the issuance of \$1,197,000 bonds or notes of the City to finance part of the cost thereof.

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

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

Motion to open to the public for comment – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor.

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

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

- 09** Amending Chapter 224, Article XXXVI - Absecon Developmental Ordinance of the Zoning Map creating the Multi-Unit Rental Development District (MURD)

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

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

Motion to open to the public for comment – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor.

**Mayor** – this ordinance has been approved by the Planning Board and found consistent with the Master Plan. It's also part of the amended Fair Share Plan that's been approved and includes this as of one his components for development of the old Clayton site. This would revise the zoning classification of that property and also alter the old area and dimensions of the ordinance to conform to this project.

**Rob Reid** – this is part of the settlement before Judge Isman and is part of our Fair Share Housing Plan. The project will allow for 71 affordable units at the old Clayton Block site at Rt. 9 & California Avenues. It's about 7 acres of land. The corner piece at 1.5 acres is zoned commercial possibly for a small commercial use. It will be a multi-family housing complex that is consistent with the existing land use that surround this. It will go towards our COAH obligations.

Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

All were in favor.

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

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

## CONSENT AGENDA

- 89** Authorizing the City of Absecon to accept donations for Community Affairs events.
- 90** Certifying the qualified participants in the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the Absecon Volunteer Fire Department for the calendar year 2013.
- 91** Adopting the 2014 Municipal Budget.

- 92 Accepting the 2013 Municipal Audit.
- 93 Permitting a Charitable Organization to solicit funds, namely the Absecon Lions Club.
- 94 Authorizing Remington, Vernick & Walberg to proceed with the 2014 Road Program.
- 95 Authorizing Remington, Vernick & Walberg to proceed with the Pitney Park tennis court upgrades.
- 96 Authorizing Remington, Vernick & Walberg to proceed with the Absecon Creek Shore Protections Improvements – Phase I.
- 97 Authorizing Remington, Vernick & Walberg to proceed with the Turner Avenue Flood Mitigation Improvements.
- 98 Authorizing Remington, Vernick & Walberg to prepare and submit a grant application for the NJDOT Transportation Alternatives Program.

Motion to move consent agenda – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

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

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,200,391.31**

Motion to approve – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Camp

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting Minutes – 4/3/2014

Closed Session as to form and content only – 4/3/2014

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

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

4/3/14 will go onto the next agenda for approval

**PUBLIC PORTION**

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

All were in favor.

No public comment.

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

All were in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

All were in favor.

Respectfully,

Carie Crone, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_