



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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CITY COUNCIL

MAY 21, 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 – Caroline Pendleton, Asbury United Methodist Church, Atlantic City

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Camp

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

STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW - Chris

NOTIFICATION OF MEETING BEING RECORDED – Chris

PROCLAMATION – the Mayor presented a proclamation to Vicki Phillips for May being Mental Health Month

REPORTS

Sandy – Public Works – met today and the road program is in full swing and you will see a lot of construction around town. The tennis courts are open now and can be used. Lloyd Jones said everything is running smoothly and the street sweeper is going around town and they talked about the new dump truck that was approved in this year's budget. It will most likely be Ford 450 and we will go out with the State contract to order it. She wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day weekend. Her next meeting is 6/18 @ 3:30 p.m.

Jim – Public Safety – no meeting since last council meeting. He wished everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day also.

Chief DeRitis – explained a situation with a failure of our 911 call system that occurred last night and how it was handled. Asked residents to reach out before putting remarks on social media and try to find out the facts.

Frank - Parks & Playground – concerts are all set and begin on 6/21. Asked for volunteers for attending the concerts and introducing the bands. Congratulated Agnes and Carol on their retirements from the Tax Office. Thanked all our Veterans for their service to our country.

Finance – Don is away so Jim reported that possible ordinance changes for rental properties was discussed and they paid bills.

Frank - forgot that the committee discussed possibly the hiring of a rec director.

Kim – right now the duties are being formed. The badges are not being worn and other coaches don't feel comfortable approaching the ones who are not. Hence the need for a director to handle that issue as well as other duties.

Chris –we haven't had a rec director since we became incorporated in 1899 and we have a stellar recreation program. We have the good fortune of volunteers and associations that we subsidize to a small degree.

Frank - A lot of the volunteers are not around for a long number of years anymore. A lot of the responsibilities are being pushed off like lights being kept on, bathrooms unlocked, dugouts not being cleaned out, etc. The committee will be working on a report for council and gather more information for everyone.

Mike – Community Affairs – the Memorial Day parade is 5/25 at 9:00 a.m. and there will be 15,000 flags at the Field of Dreams where the parade will end. He also announced upcoming events in town. His next meeting is 6/4. Congratulated Agnes and Carol on their retirement.

Kim – Economic Development – her next meeting is 6/4 @ 6:30. Encouraged council to support Res. #101, a grant application funding by the ACIA for Economic Development in town. Thanked Agnes and Carol for their years of service to the City. Wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day and thanked the Veterans for their service.

Mayor – the city passed a resolution for the State to amend the Fair Housing Act and he did a letter sending it out to the responsible parties and it was printed in the Press on Monday. He was asked to put together a Mayor's ad hoc committee to lobby for this legislation. Pennsylvania Ave. is getting done, but was told to reapply under a discretionary aid program. Visions project is on track for their loans by August and we should receive our money that was agreed to then.

Jessica – scheduled an extra finance meeting on 6/3 @3:45 to discuss the new hire candidates for the two new part time positions. Explained Res. #102 is a refund of overpayment of taxes and #103 is appointing a new tax collector, Jessica Snyder.

Frank – asked if we advertised or did it need to be and how did we come up with that salary?

Jessica – no we did not advertise. It's not necessary if someone is in house who's qualified and the salary was chosen by surveying other towns and other management within the City.

Chris – explained salaries from other towns. He would be in favor of the salary for the job.

Mayor – this individual has recently been appointed as our COAH representative and there was no stipend for it. The other consideration was an effort to establish a salary that was proportional to other department heads.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Tax Collection - \$2,069,281.39
Construction - \$17,338
Court - \$9,613.40

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public- Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Ring
All were in favor. No public comment
Motion to close public portion – Councilman Phillips - second – Councilwoman Cain
All were in favor.

REGULAR MEETING

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.

- 99** Granting 50-50 Licenses to the Charles A. Hammell American Legion Post 28 for the Concert in the Park.
- 100** Granting a Raffle License to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.
- 101** Authorizing the submission of an application for grant funding through the Atlantic County Improvement Authority Economic Development and Redevelopment initiative.
- 102** Authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes on the property located at 202 Boulder Court (Block 9.02, Lot 3.02, C0202).

Resolutions #99 to #102 were moved in the Consent Agenda.

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

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

OUT OF CONSENT

- 103** Appointing a Tax Collector for the City of Absecon, namely Jessica Snyder.

Motion to approve: Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Seher

ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, no; Ring, no; Vizthum, yes; Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$1,529,799.36

Motion to approve – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Ring

ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Horton, yes, abstain on A0005, H0095; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes, abstain A0007, A0189, Vizthum, yes; Seher, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes –5/07/2015

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

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

Discussion was held on how and when the agendas get out to the Council members. Also the meetings that are held on the Fridays before a Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 6-4-15