



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

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

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**CITY COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 18, 2016**

**REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

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

**FLAG SALUTE**

**INVOCATION** – Rev. William Williams, III – Asbury United Methodist Church, AC

**STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW** – Chris

**NOTIFICATION OF MEETING** - Chris

**ROLL CALL**

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

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**NOMINATION TO FILL THE VACANCY OF COUNCILMAN DONALD CAMP**

**49 Filling the vacant Councilperson, Ward 1 position.**

**Chris** – asked for a motion to move Res. #49 and read off the 3 candidates as Pat Sheeran, Bobbie Gorman and Jennifer Heller.

**Motion made by Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring**

**All were in favor.**

Chris asked for nominations: Pat Sheeran was nominated by Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilman Ring No other nominations were given.

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

## **ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE**

Pat was sworn in by the Mayor and his wife Karen held the bible.

**Chris** – called Pat up to the dais to take his seat.

## **ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM**

Nomination for Jim Vizthum was made by Frank Phillips – second – Councilman Ring

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

## **Administration of Oath of Office**

Jim Vizthum was sworn in by the Mayor and Jessica Thompson held the bible.

## **REPORTS**

**Pat – Finance** – next meeting will be a budget meeting on 2/23 at 6:30 p.m.

**Frank - Public Works** – his next meeting is 3/7. The Public Works did a great job on 2/15. Spoke on Ord #4 that is on the agenda in which the State required us to adopt this to be in compliance.

**Chris** – the pothole problem is getting bad. Five corners is really bad and needs to be repaired.

**Jim – Public Safety** – next meeting is 3/1. Explained Resolutions 53 and 55

**Chris** – asked for motion to add #55 to agenda – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

**Sandy – Parks & Playgrounds** – Pete Higbee ran meeting on 2/16 due to her absence and the concerts were the main discussion. Next meeting is 3/15 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Mike – Community Affairs** – announced events coming up

**Kim – Economic Development** – next meeting is 3/3 at 6:30 p.m. Congratulated and welcomed Pat back. She looks forward to working with him. She addressed Res. #52 and the 9/11 project is moving along and thanked all those who have donated so far. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders have raised and donated \$150 towards the project.

**Mayor** – discussed the possible development of the Absecon Creek area. The Turner Avenue project has been gone on too long and hopes it will be finalized soon. The Planning Board will be discussing the creek development next week at their meeting.

**Jessica Thompson** – spoke on Res. 51 and 54. Next Tuesday 2/23 is another budget meeting. The auditors have been here and they should almost be finished.

**Carie – Monthly Reports**

Clerk's Office – \$3,321

Construction – \$165,055

Court – \$10,657.68

Tax Collection – \$1,954,677.41

## **PUBLIC PORTION**

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

**Charles Sabatini – 100 Highland Blvd.** – questioned the commercial vehicles ordinance to be adopted, specifically section 2K. He requested just changing the words to say excluding a standard size car with no advertising on it.

**Pat** – he also has commercial tags on a regular car, so he understands and feels we should look into this more.

**Tim** – no one can draft an ordinance to cover every single situation. He thinks he would never have a problem with this ordinance.

**Charles** – He knows the city is saving money cutting down on the yard waste pickup, but there is yard waste all over and it goes down the drains and the outfalls are all clogged.

**Jessica** – we do cut back in the winter, but then we start back up with twice a month.

**George Superdock - 1 Oak Drive** – talked about the condition of Oak Circle that is in dire need of attention. The street, sidewalks and curbs need repair and the drainage is a problem as well. The Mayor came out to see it and had agreed. It got pushed off last year in 2015.

**Mayor** – the design work has been done on it and last year it was an alternate street, but didn't have the funds to do it last year. The engineer prioritizes the streets. It's on this year's list as #4 out of 7.

**Oscar Dutch - 120 Hobart Ave.** – the Knights Inn has a bad flooding problem and no public transportation for people and asked if Council knew they were going to the Zoning Board. He was told that their application was continued to the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting and he should go and let them know his concerns. He then questioned the speed bumps installed at the ballfields and how something should be done to prohibit cars driving around them.

**Leo McLaughlin – 205 Pennsylvania Ave.** – his street was done last year and the contractor was congenial and told us when they would be in front of our home. He complimented the procedure to bring it to that point. He asked when catch basin maintenance is done or is it done only if a problem occurs.

**Michelle Sutley – 151 Webb Road** – thanked council for reconsidering the vehicle ordinance. Her husband has a business and has commercial vehicles and they can't afford to store them anywhere else. She says the business is not run out of her house and they might have to move if they aren't allowed.

**Joe Martin – 153 Webb Road** – Mrs. Sutley explained half the problem. There is a converted ambulance that is used, a large box truck that has not been moved off the property in some time now and being used as a warehouse; there is a pickup truck that is used as a business vehicle and there is a trailer parked there also. He doesn't deny that they are hardworking people, but his business has grown and outgrown the residential neighborhood.

**Ray Huber – 155 Webb Road** – he explained the same situation at the property regarding ASAP Plumbing. He knows the family and they grew up next door and he likes Michelle and her husband, but just doesn't like dealing with the vehicles. The house is a nice house and they did some work, but then all the trucks came. It's not fair to any resident to have to deal with it. He's afraid of his property value going down when it eventually has to be sold. He hopes this can be resolved.

**Donna Sutley – 107 E. Church St.** – it’s her son’s business they are talking about. Their house is well maintained and 8 family members live in Absecon and she was born and raised here. One has a snow plow and if he keeps it in the back yard. Would that be allowed?

**Marvin Tyndall - 1023 Seaside Ave.** – he is self-employed and also has a box utility truck and it looks like an ambulance. He works out of his truck and wants to know if that will be allowed.

**Pat** – he explained his type of truck that he had that is similar. We should reexamine the ordinance and specify the sizes of the vehicles and the number of them and the wording of them. His van should not have to be a problem.

**Tim** – definitely can do it by weight.

**Virginia Dzialo - 23 Berkley Ave.** – her neighbors have a boat on a trailer all the time and it doesn’t bother her.

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

## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

### 2016 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

- 01** Creating Chapter 270 of the Code of Absecon establishing regulations for prohibition of commercial vehicles in residential zones. **TABLED**

Motion to table this Ordinance – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton  
All were in favor.

### 2016 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

- 04** An Ordinance amending Chapter 224 of the City Code to require the retrofitting of existing storm drain inlets on private property.

Motion for introduction – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Vizthum

ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Sheeran, 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.**

- 51** Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an inter-local agreement with Atlantic County for Aerial Mosquito Spraying.
- 52** Permitting a Charitable Organization to solicit funds, namely the 9-11 Memorial Committee, Inc.

- 53 Allowing Police Tele-Communicator David A. Buchanan to solicit funds for the Police Unity Tour.
- 54 Authorizing the adoption the Atlantic County Multi-Jurisdiction Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as an official plan of the City of Absecon.
- 55 Authorizing rates for the Absecon Emergency Service Ambulance Squad

Motion to move consent agenda – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton  
ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Sheeran, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; Vizthum, yes; Seher, yes

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$ 1,564,198.59**

Motion to approve – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilwoman Horton  
ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Sheeran, yes; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, yes; abstain J0003; Vizthum, yes; Seher, yes

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting Minutes – 2/4/16

Motion for approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton  
ROLL CALL: Cain, yes; Sheeran, abstain; Horton, yes; Phillips, yes; Ring, abstain; Vizthum, yes; Seher, yes

**CLOSED SESSION - # 50-2016**

Tim – explained the topic to be discussed will be Contract Negotiations regarding PBA. The estimated time is 15 minutes and we do anticipate taking action afterwards.

Motion to enter closed session – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Sheeran

Tim – it's now 9:24 p.m. and we discussed the PBA contract.

**Res. #56** – Authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Agreement and such other documents necessary to effectuate that Memorandum of Agreement with the Mainland PBA Local #77 for the years 2016 through 2019

Motion to approve – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Phillips  
All were in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilman Ring  
All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carrie A. Crone, City Clerk

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