



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 1, 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 – Mayor

INVOCATION – Rev. Louis Strugala, Jr., Chaplain Atlantic County Sheriff's Dept. & 200 Club of Atlantic and Cape May Counties

STATEMENT OF SUNSHINE LAW – Chris

NOTIFICATION OF MEETING - Chris

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Sheeran

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

PRESENTATION – Green Team

Brad Smith – chairman of the Green Team and he went over a project that has been going on for a couple of years. He gave a timeline of events that brought them to today. The project is a park at Traymore & Morton and Breakers Ave, which is a triangle piece. It's been unsightly for years and they were asked to look at doing a makeover. They went to the school for ideas to get the students involved as well and residents within 200 ft. were also notified. They were awarded a \$2,000 grant from the State as well. After months of hard work, a final design was created and the team all were happy with it.

Bob Preston, member of the team and a landscape engineer – explained the design concept for the project.

Mike Celestino, member of the team – explained the different plantings that will be put in. They are native plants that are drought tolerant and deer resistant and adaptable to full sun and partial sun environments. We won't be able to have an irrigation system installed but the plantings will be watered manually during the initial plantings. They are hoping to get donations and other grant opportunities. They are planning on having pavers down the line.

Bob – we are planning on using crushed stone initially and then the pavers would be laid on top of that at a later time. He has contacted Home Depot for possible donations. The flower bed and some type of perimeter bed is proposed to start the project.

Chris – out of curiosity, why Jackson Township nursery?

Mike - the species we are looking for are hard to get sometimes

Brad – asking for Council's blessing tonight

Motion to approve their design concept and move forward was made by Councilwoman Horton second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

REPORTS

Frank - Public Works – congratulated Bob Wenz for the Citizen of the year award. The 2016 road program is almost completed. He spoke to the County regarding the flashing light and crosswalk at Pitney Road and the County has put it out to bid for the base of the sign.

Chris – asked about the paving on NJ Avenue

Ed – he is working the electric company with the work they have to do first. It will take 2-3 months to complete once started

Jim - Public Safety – his meeting will be 9/6. Asked residents to be safe with the kids going back to school and also with the impending storm coming. Have a nice holiday weekend.

Sandy – Parks and Playgrounds – a special meeting was held to go over the bids for the contract for the Pitney Park Phase III improvements. There were 6 bids and the low bid came in under budget. Once started it will take 45 days to complete. They are looking into a maintenance plan as well for the fields if it's not too expensive. Her next meeting is 8/20

Pat – Finance – absent but next meeting is 9/15 at 6:00 p.m.

Mike – Community Affairs – explained Resolutions #140 and #14. He announced the upcoming events in town. Thanked the 9/11 memorial committee which will be dedicated on Sunday, 9/11 at 2:00. His next meeting is 10/6 at 6:00 p.m.

Chris – forgot to thank Calabria's Restaurant for donating 75 large pizzas at National Night Out donations

Kim - Economic Development – they are still working on the old Girl Scout Lodge and they will be adding ACIT on the Absecon video. 26 units have been sold at Absecon Gardens so far. They had an informal meeting with the owners of the properties on NJ Avenue and it was agreed that we need to attract specialty type retail shops, such as antiques, co-op options; etc. Her next meeting is 10/6 and another meeting on 10/18 with the business owners again.

Mayor – discussed vacant and foreclosed properties and the housing issues in Absecon

Jessica – explained Res. #139, #142. The city's asphalt company, Asphalt Paving Systems is also going to pave the walkway area by the 9/11 monument at their expense. The construction vehicle has been ordered and delivery should take 12 weeks. The lights have been ordered for the soccer field.

Ed – waiting for estimates on the walkway in the park due to root problems. The city will be getting some micro-surfacing done to roads in the next week or so. Wants to schedule the pre-construction meeting for next week for the Pitney Park work so sod can be planted in the Fall. The road program went well this year and hopes the cycle will repeat itself for next year.

Chris – congratulated Bob Wenz and his family on their award and thanked other dignitaries for proclamations they presented and thanked Rifici's for hosting the event

PUBLIC PORTION

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

All were in favor.

Ed Soltys – 157 Webb Road – thanked Councilman Phillips for reaching out to the County for the crosswalks at the school and fields. Asked possibly to get the flexible signage in the middle of the road.

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

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.

- 138** Awarding a contract for Pitney Park Phase III.
- 139** Approving a salary adjustment for the Recycling/Zoning Assistant.
- 140** Granting a Raffle License to the Holy Spirit High School Father's Club.
- 141** Permitting a Charitable Organization to solicit funds, namely the Rotary Club of Absecon.
- 142** Appointing Part-Time substitute crossing guards.

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

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$383,400.46

Motion to approve – Councilman Vizthum – second – Councilwoman Cain

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 8/18/16

Motion to approve – Councilman Phillips – second – Councilwoman Horton

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilwoman Horton – second – Councilman Ring

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 9-15-16