



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

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CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Council Pro Tem, Howell at 5:30 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Burroughs, Cain, Cavileer, Howell, Larotonda, Light,

ABSENT: Bennett

Betty read a letter from Keith Bennett who resigned from his position as of 9/2/21.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Horton; Attorney, Fred Scerni; Jessica Thompson; Carie Crone, Ed Dennis

STATEMENT OF THE SUNSHINE LAW

NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2021 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

- 15** Dedicating to the County, for public use, an easement of right of way, across and through land in the City of Absecon, identified on the Municipal Tax Map as Block 229, p/o Lots 1 and 2.

Eddie – explained that the County has a road project on Mill and Wescoat Road going on and it's common for them to review the right a way along the road and if there are any areas where it is narrower than the main stretch of the road, they will make a request to the property owner to dedicate additional right a way to the county, so they have a consistent and adequate width on their roads. There is a city owned lot and they did all the work and he considers this a fairly routine request and no negative impact on the city.

Motion to introduce – Councilman Larotonda – second – Councilman Light

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Larotonda, yes; Light, yes

Jessica – we are updating language in the recycling section of the code, as well as adding language for the new recycling carts that will be delivered the week of September 20th. Also, fines will be payable and not require a mandatory court appearance.

Motion to introduce – Councilman Light - second – Councilman Cavileer

Betty – a resident already purchased his own and he doesn't want another one, so what happens now?

Jessica – the one that we assign that address should be the primary cart to use. The additional one he bought can be used as well if needed or it can be repurposed for yard waste. The ordinance spells out that the new ones need to be used. The smaller blue cans can be used for yard waste as well or they can be taken away.

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Larotonda, yes; Light, yes

CONSENT AGENDA

120 Authorizing the Tax Collector to prorate and cancel taxes on the properties that are exempt from taxes due to Disabled Veteran Status.

121 Authoring the Chief of Police to advertise for the position of Special Law Enforcement Officer (Class II).

Jessica – this is due to a vacancy we have

122 Accepting a Performance Guaranty and Engineer's Escrow fund for improvements on property known as Block 236, Lots 2, 3 & 4.

Eddie – this is routine business. It was an application approved by the Planning Board and this is the posting of the bond for the work.

PUBLIC PORTION (for agenda items)

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Burroughs – second – Councilwoman Cavileer

All were in favor. No public comment.

Motion to close to the public – Councilman Larotonda – second – Councilman Burroughs

All were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA - Resolutions read by title that have been moved to consent.

Motion to approve – Councilman Larotonda – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Larotonda, yes; Light, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$446,935.71

Motion to approve – Councilman Cavileer – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Howell, yes; Larotonda, yes; Light, ye

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 8/12/2021

Motion to approve – Councilman Burroughs – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, abstain; Howell, yes; Larotonda, yes; Light, yes

REPORTS

Jessica – tax bills should have been received and the grace period is until September 17th and any payments after that date, will have interest accrued back to August 1st. We have scheduled a shred day for October 9th from 9 am to noon. Shared dispatch services started 9/1 and everything is going along very smoothly and is working very well.

Chief Laughlin – in reference to the Class II resolution, we have two empty slots right now. Yesterday we started the dispatch services with Galloway and so far, we have had no real problems. He thanked Ian from Galloway and Jenn from here who was essential in this whole change over.

Betty – thanked Jenn and all of our dispatchers and hopes some of them have gone over to Galloway.

Eddie – the road program is coming to an end and the sidewalk at the firehouse is getting done and at the 4th Avenue swale. Sooy Lane will be the last street to be completed due to some utility connections that needed to be done before paving. The Shore Road project with the County and the electric company is ongoing. The State did do their pre-dredge survey in our area of the creek and they will get it to us soon to review. He gave an update on the firehouse sidewalk and said that the sidewalk in front of the building did not meet our expectations on how it would look when done. The work done was just okay and it could have stayed that way and instead of dealing with an uncooperative contractor and the timing of the project, we decided that we would make it better and put it in our road program at a reasonable cost.

Nick – he feels it should fall back on the contractor and the engineers and not on the taxpayers to fix it

Eddie – we had different expectations on the end project and it could have stayed the way it was, and it was considered acceptable, but if they did it, they'd charge us. It is a gray area where the way it was formed up and the way it was built, met code standards slopes and acceptable. It would probably have cost more to do what we are doing now and we weren't confident that we would end up with what we wanted. He feels we saved money in the end. The sprinklers and sod will be fixed as well.

Mayor - she read a thank you letter since he couldn't attend tonight

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open the meeting to the public – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Larotonda
All were in favor.

Dan Larotonda – 1007 Caralena Court – asked Eddie what he meant by the gray area.

Eddie – the way the sidewalk was constructed was code compliant and did not need to be changed.

Dan – if everything was fine, who wanted to change it.

Eddie – when we put together the road program, it was discussed at the public works meeting and it was decided then.

Dan – if it met all the requirements, why didn't it just stay. He has a problem as a taxpayer doing this. He feels the contractor should be held accountable. There are bonds and you can go after them.

Eddie – an example he gave was the paving of the Legion driveway as part of our road program and there was nothing wrong it, we just made it better. Those type of decisions on quality of life are made all the time by the governing body and their professionals.

Motion to close – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Larotonda
All were in favor.

Steve – thanked Keith for all of his time and efforts and wished his family well

Betty – announced the 9/11 memorial at 2:00 on Saturday, Sept. 11th at the monument on Mill Road and invited everyone and if you do, please bring a chair.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Larotonda
All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 9-17-21