



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

Carie A. Crone, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

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**CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 6:30 PM**  
**MINUTES**

**FLAG SALUTE – Mayor**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Alex Clark, Linda Evans, Steve Light, Christine Parker, Mike Sykes, and Council President Richard DeRose

**ABSENT:** Councilman Nick LaRotonda

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Thomas Marrone, City Engineer Ed Dennis, City Solicitor John Amenhauser Esq., City Clerk Carie Crone, Police Chief J.R. Laughlin

**STATEMENT OF THE SUNSHINE LAW & NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**2025 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION**

**01** Establishing salary ranges for the City of Absecon.

**Motioned for the first reading of Ordinance #01-25:** Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Clark

Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans - Yes; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes; DeRose - Yes

This Ordinance will be posted, laid over, and published according to law. A Public Hearing, second, and final reading will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**2025 RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA**

**33** Confirming Meetings of the City Committees, Commissions and Boards for the 2025.

- 34 Authorizing the submission of a Grant Application and the execution of a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs under the fiscal year 2025 Local Recreation Improvements Grant Program for the Pitney Park Baseball Batting Cage Improvements.
- 35 Authorizing the submission of the City of Absecon's Tonnage Grant Application for the year 2024 to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.
- 36 Re-Appointing part-time Special Law Enforcement Officers, Class II.
- 37 Appointing a full time Patrol Officer, namely Paiton Koppenal.
- 38 Designating a city owned vehicle as surplus property and authorizing disposal of said surplus property.
- 39 Authorizing to advertise for the position of Deputy Court Administrator.
- 40 Designating a Tax Search/Assessment Search Officer.
- 41 Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel taxes for 2025 on the property located at 320 Ohio Avenue (Block 216, Lot 1).
- 42 Authorizing the Tax Collector to prorate and refund a portion of the 4th quarter taxes of 2024 and cancel the preliminary for 2025 on the property located at 105 Creek Court (Block 96.01, Lot 14.19).
- 43 Authorizing the Tax Collector to prorate and refund a portion of the 4th quarter taxes of 2024 and cancel the preliminary for 2025 on the property located at 610 Yarmouth Avenue (Block 137, Lot 13).
- 44 Setting 4th round Affordable Housing obligations for the City of Absecon.

**PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)**

Motioned to open to the public: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker  
All in Favor, None Opposed.

No discussion.

Motioned to close to the public: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Sykes  
All in Favor, None Opposed.

**CONSENT AGENDA VOTE**

Motioned to move Consent Agenda: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker  
Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans - Yes; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes;  
DeRose - Yes

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$ 1,461,129.99**

Motioned to accept: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker  
Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans - Yes; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes;  
DeRose - Yes

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting Minutes – 12/19/2024

Re-Organization Meeting Minutes – 1/2/2025

Motioned to accept: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Light

Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans – Abstain(12/19), Yes(1/2/); LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Abstain(12/19), Yes(1/2); DeRose - Yes

## **REPORTS**

**Councilman Sykes – Parks & Playgrounds:** First meeting will take place on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Meeting schedule will remain as the third Tuesday of the month at 7PM. Looking forward to working with everyone.

**Councilwoman Parker – Public Safety:** First meeting will be February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6PM. Reminded the public about the Police Dept.'s PSA about house number visibility displayed on both mailboxes and houses. This is very helpful in case of an emergency.

**Chief Laughlin:** Observed that it's the time for inclement weather. Declared that it is people's duty to remove snow and ice from their car before driving. Advised everyone to clean off, not only the windshield and windows, but the entire car (roof, trunk, hood.) Accidents have been caused by debris coming off vehicles and hitting others.

**Councilwoman Evans – Community Affairs:** First meeting will be February 6<sup>th</sup>. Looks forward to working with Councilwoman Parker who was the Chair of Community Affairs last year. Hopes for many volunteers this year.

**Councilman Clark – Finance:** Finance Committee will meet on the third Thursday of the month at 5:30PM. First meeting will be on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM. Budget season is approaching so there will be Budget Meetings coming up as well.

**Councilman Light – Public Works:** Public Works Committee will meet on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5PM. The public is welcome. Encouraged anyone with comments, questions, concerns, to reach out via email or to come attend the meeting.

**City Clerk:** Monthly Report – December 2024

- Municipal Court: \$8,285.56
- Tax Office: \$1,021,654.09
- Construction Office: \$5,836
- Municipal Clerk's Office: \$1,981.05

**Mayor Thomas Marrone:** Shared that it has been a busy, yet productive new year at City Hall. Thanked City staff for their hard work. Praised the new CFO and Deputy CFO from Galloway Township for their phenomenal work. Also thanked the Police Dept., Fire Dept., and EMS. Expressed gratitude to Carie Crone, City Clerk, for welcoming him into his new position. Announced that Absecon legend, Jim Logue, will celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday.

**E. Dennis – City Engineer:** Will be meeting on the first Monday of February. Plans to discuss the 2025 Road Program. The 2024 Road Program will start up in the spring. Other projects are being closed out (i.e. Streetscape Project and Crestview Avenue Project). During budget discussions they will address future projects.

**Council President DeRose:** Reiterated that, despite being understaffed and overworked, everyone at City Hall is doing a great job. New policies have been implemented and things are moving fast. Praised new Councilmembers Evans and Sykes for jumping in head first to help with operations.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Motioned to open to the public: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Clark  
All in Favor, None Opposed.

No discussion.

Motioned to close to the public: Councilwoman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Light  
All in Favor, None Opposed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motioned to adjourn: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker  
All in Favor, None Opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 2-6-25