



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

Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk

CITY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 1, 2020

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THIS MEETING WAS HELD AS A ZOOM MEETING.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Keith Bennett at 5:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON THE SUNSHINE LAW
NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Butch Burroughs, Sandy Cain, Betty Howell, Steve Light, Keith Bennett

ABSENT: Caleb Cavileer, Frank Phillips

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

- 102** Authorizing a reduction in the performance guarantee from Visions –
Mi-Place at the Shore – Phase 2.

Eddie – explained this is routine and when larger developments post a bond, they are able to get them reduced as the project progresses.

- 103** Authorizing Remington & Vernick, City Engineers to provide a Bathymetric
Survey for the dredging of Absecon Creek.

Eddie – this is a survey of the floor of Absecon Creek, so that we can set us up for a dredging project possibly in the near future. This type of survey will tell us what the depth of the water is and the mudline and costs can be estimated as well. He then gave an overview of what is happening in Atlantic County and their plans to dredge all of Atlantic County in the next 2-3 years.

Keith – thanked Kim for pushing this matter for us.

PUBLIC PORTION (Agenda Items only)

Motion to open to the public – Councilwoman Howell – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

No public comment.

Motion to close public – Councilman Light – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Keith – read the resolutions again.

Motion to move the consent agenda – Councilman Light – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Bennett, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$651,034.48

Motion to approve – Councilman Burroughs – second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Bennett, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 9/17/2020

Motion to approve – Councilman Burroughs - second – Councilman Light

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Howell, yes; Light, yes; Bennett, yes

REPORTS

Jessica – she received an update regarding the funding for Clean Communities and Recycling Grant and we will still be receiving those monies. She explained the lane closures beginning Oct. 5th at Mill Road and Rt. 30. Next week is National Fire Prevention Week and she read off some information and tips. We received the draft audit yesterday and the final should be in next week, but there were no findings. She received the Best Practices inventory and we look to be in good shape so far. If you don't reach a certain score, you don't get your funding from the State. She will provide all of Council with that as well. We have over \$10,000,000 in added assessments, which will increase our valuation and tax base for next year. A good portion of that is the Mi Place development coming on board, plus other improvements throughout the city. It's a positive for us and it will help us out next year.

Steve – maybe some time in the near future, we could generate some type of city owned lots, because people are buying and maybe we could put some up for sale. It would bring us some revenue and maybe clean up some lots that are non-conforming and enhance the properties that they are attached to.

Jessica – the new rental ordinance instructions and forms are available on our website. She is working on setting up the occupancy tax now. It all should be ready by the end of October. The shredding will be held on October 10 from 9-1 and a city cleanup from 9-12. If anyone is interested, please reach out to Caleb or Bob at ext. 105. Leaf pickup is Nov. 2nd until the end of the year. Residents can always bag them or use a bucket and ACUA will pick them up. Everyone received a packet with an analysis for the redevelopment site and the way the firehouse costs will be offset by them. She then went through it and explained it to everyone. We are accustomed to paying a certain amount of debt and this bond payment fits into what we already have in our budget. This new bond will not increase taxes and fit into the budget line item for debt and keep it at what we were paying.

Eddie - gave a firehouse update and there is a lot going on every day and changes are done every day. The contractor remains on schedule to have the apparatus bay turned over to the fire department on or about October 31st. The administrative side of the building will take a little longer because of delivery schedules and we're looking at late November being completed. Everyone is trying their best to get it done. We have other capital projects going on: Bayview Drive is in construction for another month or so; the bulkhead is moving ahead and is about half way done of driving the sheets; the gas company, which is not ours, but it's covering the whole city. It's still ongoing and we continue to field concerns from residents and address them as they come in. We will start the survey as soon as possible.

Steve – asked about the Pitney Road project and mentioned that all the channel markers are missing at the Creek. Can we reach out to someone about crosswalks at Mill Road and getting bus stop shelters for people?

Eddie – Verizon has to move a pole and then that project will be finished on Connecticut Avenue. As to the channel markers he will look into it with the State and he will work with Jessica regarding the shelters.

Mayor – 9/29 was the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, who is the patron saint of Police. Several members of the Knights of Columbus, along with Fr. Cosme from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton visiting our station and said the rosary to keep our officers safe. The voting drop box is out front of the building now and the Board of Elections will retrieve them daily. They should be mailed out the first week of October. She announced the polling places and if someone votes in person, it would be a provisional ballot. There will be no machines used. Trick or Treating will be held on 10/31 from 6-8 P.M. and at the discretion of the parents and residents.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public was made by Councilman Light – second – Councilwoman Cain
All were in favor.

No public comment.

Motion to close public – Councilwoman Howell – second – Councilman Burroughs
All were in favor.

Steve – thanked the painter's union for painting the American Legion last week. They spent several days there and had about 10-15 there. He's hoping to get some donors and maybe add shutters to give it some curb appeal. He asked to keep the Commander's family in their prayers with the passing of his father in law.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Burroughs
All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 10.15.2020