



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

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**CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> 2022 5:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Butch Burroughs, Sandy Cain, Caleb Cavileer, Nick LaRotonda, Donna Poley, and Council President Betty Howell

**ABSENT:** Councilman Steve Light

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mayor Kim Horton, City Administrator/CFO Jessica Thompson, City Engineer Ed Dennis, City Solicitor Bill Blaney Esq., City Clerk Carie Crone, Police Chief J.R. Laughlin

**MOMENT OF SILENCE – ED VINCENT**

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**2022 RESOLUTIONS**

- 130** Authorizing the refund of Construction Fees.
- 131** Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel taxes for 2022 Final/2023 Preliminary and to prorate taxes for six days and refund the amount of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter on property located at 302 N. Shore Rd.
- 132** Authorizing a refund of overpayment of taxes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of 2022 on the listed properties.
- 133** Authorizing the adoption of a revised Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.
- 134** Authorizing the transfer of appropriations in the 2022 Local Municipal Budget per N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58.

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

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

*No Discussion.*

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:** All matters listed under item, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the 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 discussed separately.

**Council President Howell read Resolutions #130-134 by title.**

Motioned to move the Consent Agenda: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilwoman Cain  
Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; Cavileer – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes; Light – Absent; Poley – Yes; Howell – Yes

## **APPROVAL OF BILL LIST** – \$ 5,231,327.62

Motioned to accept: Councilman Cavileer; Seconded: Councilwoman Cain  
Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; Cavileer – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes; Light – Absent; Poley – Yes; Howell – Yes

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Closed Session as to form and content only– 9/15/2022 and 10/6/2022

Motioned to accept: Councilman LaRotonda; Seconded: Councilwoman Poley  
Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Abstain (9/15/22), Yes (10/6/22); Cavileer – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes; Light – Absent; Poley – Yes; Howell – Yes

## **REPORTS**

**Councilwoman Poley – Community Affairs Committee:** The City had a Movie in the Park in early October. On October 21<sup>st</sup>, the Absecon PTO hosted their Trunk or Treat and the Police hosted their Haunted Hallways. Absecon's Scarecrow Stroll will be on November 5<sup>th</sup> in Heritage Park. On Veterans Day (November 11<sup>th</sup>) Holy Spirit High School will be hosting a Breakfast Grab-N-Go for Veterans at the high school. The Atlantic County Sheriff's Dept. will be giving away 100 free turkeys for Thanksgiving. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, Rowan students will be administering COVID booster shots, and possibly wellness checks, in the Holy Spirit High School parking lot. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Tree Lighting in downtown Absecon. The Police recently installed a Child at Play sign in the City. Thanked E. Dennis for the new stop signs installed on Elberon Ave.

**Councilwoman Cain – Public Safety Committee:** Had no meeting. Next meeting will be November 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30. Halloween night was a smooth success. In consideration of the upcoming clock change for Daylight Savings time, asked the public to cautious of the children out and about in the earlier dark hours.

**Councilman Cavileer – Finance Committee:** Discussed the budget. Indicated that Health Insurance, Pension, and Tipping Fees would be increasing in the new year. Community Affairs is working in coordination with other groups on different projects. Right now, they are working on the Annual Scarecrow Stroll in Heritage Park with Absecon Schools. The Tree Lighting will be Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>. Grandparents, children, and grandchildren are encouraged to attend, as the Historical Society will be taking last names for historical records. Thanked the Police for their help in ensuring a safe Halloween.

**Councilman Burroughs – Public Works Committee:** Projects are progressing. Provided an update about 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. Park.

Mayor Horton: She, and the Green Team (along with Alex Perri), cleaned the area around Traymore and Morton.

**Councilman LaRotonda – Economic Development Committee:** There will be a Gift Absecon Program to offer incentives to shop local business. Addressed a Parking Ordinance for New Jersey Avenue, attracting new businesses for New Jersey Avenue, and possible tax abatements. Santa will be visiting the Tree Lighting on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**J. Thompson – City Administrator/CFO:** Newsletters, Tax Bills, and the new ACUA Trash & Recycling Schedule will be sent out to residents within the next two weeks, but cards are available in City Hall and at the Library. Due to the City's Rating in Best Practices, the City will retain State Aid. Request for Proposals (RFPs) will be posted on the Absecon website next week.

**E. Dennis – City Engineer:** The 2022 Road Program is complete. They submitted final plans to the County Engineer for the Shore Rd. Plan. The New York Ave. Project is filed with the Planning Board and will be discussed at the November 30<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7pm. Regarding Memorial Field development, White Horse hopes to open their doors in the summer of 2023. Land developers have also recently entered a long-term lease with an unnamed company at this location. Because this is a multi-property transaction across many projects throughout the state, the lease signee cannot be named yet, although, they have reaffirmed a commitment to begin work in early 2023. Chipotle and a medical company will also be established there. A corner lot on Michigan Ave. will become an office building. Having development in all these areas of the site with 95% of the taxes going to the Municipality solidifies the vision of developing Memorial Field and building a new firehouse at no cost to the taxpayers.

**J. Thompson:** Discussed the Redevelopment Project. Acknowledged that it allowed them to relocate the Fire House at no cost. The tax money earned on the discussed developments will pay for the bond itself, and will therefore avoid being a tax burden on the residents.

**Councilwoman Cain:** Praised the developments progress. Thanked E. Dennis, the Mayor, and the Council on their work to bring more business to the city. There will be significant progress within the next 6 months.

**Mayor Horton:** Encouraged residents to support local business. Thanked Chief for ensuring a safe and happy Halloween. Expressed teachers thanks to Police for their presence at the schools. Read a proclamation in honor of Absecon Resident, Ed Vincent.

**Carie Crone – City Clerk: Monthly Report – October 2022:**

- Municipal Court: \$5,299.14
- Tax Office: \$4,059,033.71
- Construction Office: \$15,689
- Municipal Clerk's Office: \$1,212

**PUBLIC PORTION**

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

**Michael Reilly** – 444 4<sup>th</sup> Street: Discussed parking on New Jersey Avenue. Indicated there was a vacant parking lot on Cherry Court.

**Councilman LaRotonda:** Stated that there are 6 parking spots there.

**M. Reilly:** Asked about the Subdivision Project.

**E. Dennis:** Informed that it was on New York Avenue, near 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Rich DeRose** – 43 Natalie Terr.: Questioned the increase in Health Insurance.

**J. Thompson:** Informed him that it is a state increase by 21.6%.

**R. DeRose:** Asked Council to create a coalition, for which they may use COVID fees.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motioned to adjourn: Councilwoman Cain; Seconded: Councilman LaRotonda  
All in favor, no opposed

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 12-1-22