



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
NOVEMBER 6TH, 2025 6:30 PM
MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Councilwoman Evans & Councilman LaRotonda

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

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

REGULAR MEETING

2025 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

- 17** Bond Ordinance providing for Drainage Management Improvements in the Absecon Estates Neighborhood, by and in the City of Absecon, appropriating \$2,000,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$2,000,000 bonds or notes to finance the cost thereof.

Motioned for the first reading of Ordinance #17-2025: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Sykes.

Discussion – Ed Dennis – Part of the IBank funding we've been discussing since budget time. It's a new program that the City qualifies for. Technically the program is a principle forgiveness loan, but in all reality it's a grant. The City has to pass a Bond Ordinance and then set it up as a loan. Do the project, they provide the City with the funds to pay the bills. You never actually borrowing any money or making payments on the loan. Once the project is done you close the loan and they forgive it instantly.

Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans – Absent; 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 November 20th, 2025

- 18** Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 160 – Uniform Construction Code Fees.

Motioned for the first reading of Ordinance #18-2025: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker.

Discussion – Council President DeRose – Changing the fee structure to be more in line with present day. And insuring the Construction Office isn't losing money and can sustain operations.

Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans – Absent; 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 November 20th, 2025.

2025 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

- 15** Amending Chapter 330 to designate a Multi-Way stop intersection at certain intersections within the City of Absecon.

Motioned for the Second reading of Ordinance #15-2025: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Light. **Roll Call:** Clark – Yes; Evans – Absent; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes; DeRose – Yes

Motioned to open the meeting to the public for comment or discussion of Ordinance #15-2025: Councilman Sykes; Seconded: Councilman Clark. All in Favor, None Opposed.

Councilman Clark – Asked if Ed can give an idea of when this will be.

Ed. Dennis – Directed the Contractor to order the signs, he said it's about a two-week time frame on receiving the sign materials. And separately they'll send out a crew to do the stop bars. Once the signs are up the four-way stops are in effect.

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

Motioned for the final reading and adoption of Ordinance #15-2025: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker
Roll Call: Clark–Yes; Evans–Absent; LaRotonda–Absent; Light–Yes; Parker–Yes; Sykes–Yes; DeRose–Yes

Ordinance #15-2025 has been heard and is finally approved.

- 16 Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 35 – Fire Department, Article II, §35-12-Definitions.

Motioned for the Second reading of Ordinance #16-2025: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Sykes. **Roll Call:** Clark – Yes; Evans – Absent; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes; DeRose – Yes

Motioned to open the meeting to the public for comment or discussion of Ordinance #16-2025: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Sykes. All in Favor, None Opposed.

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

Motioned for the final reading and adoption of Ordinance #16-2025: Councilman Clark;
Seconded: Councilwoman Parker
Roll Call: Clark–Yes; Evans–Absent; LaRotonda–Absent; Light–Yes; Parker–Yes; Sykes–Yes;
DeRose–Yes

Ordinance #16-2025 has been heard and is finally approved.

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.

- 189 Authorizing the acceptance of, and when authorized, the release of various street opening permit security deposits.
- 190 Appointing a Zoning Official (Part-Time), namely John Fairweather.
- 191 Accepting a Volunteer Firefighter into the Absecon City Fire Department, namely Griffin Fitzgerald.
- 192 Authorizing the adoption of a revised Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.
- 193 Authorizing to enter into a contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers for planning and design services for Citywide Sanitary Sewer Improvements.
- 194 Authorizing Remington & Vernick, City Engineers, to administer construction related services for the 2025 Road Program.
- 195 Authorizing Remington & Vernick, City Engineers, to administer construction related services for the Reconstruction of Delaware Avenue FY 2025 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program.
- 196 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to cancel grant receivables and appropriations not needed.
- 197 Authorizing the transfer of appropriations in the 2025 Local Municipal Budget per N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58.

- 198 Requesting permission for the Dedication by Rider for the Developers Fees – Housing Trust Funds required by the City of Absecon.

PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)

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

No Discussion

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

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$1,568,903.84

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 10/16/2025

Motioned to accept the Minutes: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Clark
Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans – Absent; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Abstain;
Sykes – Yes; DeRose – Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Light – Public Works: Didn't meet this month due to schedule conflicts and the Elections. Continual thanks to our Public Works Department for the level of care they give to all our parks and buildings. Constantly getting compliments from other communities. Spoke with some Residents looking of an update on Shore Road. Next meeting December 1st @5pm. Thanked everyone who took the time to vote.

Councilman Clark – Finance: Have not met since our last meeting. In the budget process for 2026. Meeting with all department to get their budgets together. Have a meeting set up with Enterprise to do some review about possibly doing the car fleet for the Police Department. No Finance meeting in November.

Councilwoman Parker – Community Affairs & Public Safety: Community Affairs did not meet this month. City clean up, shredding and electronic drop off will be on Nov. 22nd from 9-12pm. Annual Tree Lighting will be on December 2nd at 6pm. Legion holding Veteran's Day Ceremony on November 11th at 11am at the Veteran's Park.
Public Works – Firehouse hosted their Fire Prevention Open House. Also hosted the Pre-K classes from Absecon. Thanked the Police Department for posting the monthly blotter.

Chief Laughlin – Thanked all the men and women of the Police Department for all their time and effort put into Trunk or Treat and Haunted Hallways. Thanked the public for a successful trick or treating. Everybody was out and about having a good time. Daylight saving time, dark at 5pm, please take your time navigating around time. Adjust your home lighting. Keep doors locked and see something say something. A little bit of kindness goes a long way, reach out and keep in touch with your neighbors.

Councilwoman Parker – Daylight savings time is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Councilman Sykes – Parks and Playgrounds: Thanks to Public Works for great job on the fields. Lighting issues around the Field of Dreams, were all fixed. Possible updating lights at the fields to LED, looking into Grants.

Council President DeRose – Economic Development – On behalf of Councilman LaRotonda, welcomed along with the Mayor and Councilwoman Evans the new Dispensary in town. He wanted to highlight, that we will be decorating the newer section of New Jersey Avenue for the Holidays. Good luck to the Blue Devils, both JV and Varsity are in the Play offs this weekend, we wish them well.

Mayor Marrone – Please support the local businesses this holiday season, especially those on New Jersey Avenue.

Ed Dennis – Resolution tonight for Sanity Sewer Improvements is another grant through the IBank, we're applying for two million dollars through that program in addition to the two million I spoke about at the beginning of the meeting. These are big projects that have been sitting around for years, waiting for funding, they will get done next year. Road program and Delaware Ave. that were awarded had the pre-construction meetings today, decided along with the Contractor to hold the project till beginning of the year. We don't want to dig up the streets and then have issues with weather and people having dug up roads for the holidays. ADA Compliance lobby update will begin in the next couple of weeks. Putting together some information for the public, so they know what to expect when they come to City Hall. Shore Road, sent over our final signed and sealed plans to the County for them to bid the project, down to the minute details of the Interlocal Agreement. Expect that it should be advertised for bid this month.

Mayor Marrone – Spoke with a couple of our County Commissioners about this and they're extremely support of this project and realize the urgency.

Council President DeRose – I want to thank the Professionals and Council; For the last 12-14 months we made a strategic decision to aggressively go after grants and we're getting the grants we're going after and we're getting to do more and with less of tax payers' money. Unreal that are building isn't ADA complaint and want to thank Councilwoman Parker for really driving home the need to invest in City Hall to be open to every resident.

Jessica Snyder – Fourth quarter property taxes are due; grace period ends November 10th. City Hall closed in honor of Veteran's Day. Sewer bill will be going out the week of the 17th. Fall curbside leaf pick up had become. During the ADA construction the drive thru window will be closed. Tonight, we hired our new Zoning Official, John Fairweather.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 11-20-25