



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

Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 3, 2020
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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, Caleb Cavileer, Steve Light, Keith Bennett

ABSENT: Betty Howell, Frank Phillips

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2020 RESOLUTIONS

- 114** Approving the Special Item of Revenue into the 2020 Municipal Budget to allow for the receipt of \$6,000.00 from the New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety.

Jessica – explained this is a program called Drive Sober Get Pulled Over grant regarding cracking down on drivers impaired by alcohol or drugs.

- 115** Authorizing the City Engineer, Remington & Vernick, to design and coordinate bids for the 2021 Road Program.

Eddie – this would be for next year's road program. We do it in the current year to get ahead in the design for next year's and go out to bid in the spring for construction in the summer. We are even more ahead of the game and he announced the streets and areas to be done. We are able to do a lot since a lot of the streets are just a mill and pave job and not a full reconstruct due to the gas company work that was done. This \$800,000 amount is the same in the capital budget for about 8 year, so it's not a big hit on the taxes.

- 116** Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to refund escrow accounts of completed projects with a balance above twenty-five dollars.

Jessica – these are projects that are closed out and have small balances. Res. #117 is the same. Both have a handful of accounts.

- 117** Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to cancel escrow accounts of completed projects with a balance of twenty-five dollars or less.

- 118** Authorizing the Construction Official to waive fees for specific projects within a Municipality.

Jessica – the State sent information regarding the tents for outdoor spaces. As of November 30th, you will need permits to meet snow bearing requirements or other guidance for these tents. By recommendation from the State, we are allowing the Construction Official to waive the fees for these projects in order to be busy friendly and to try to help them continue operations during the winter. It will be in effect for 6 months.

- 119** Authorizing the release of a maintenance guarantee posted by Enterprise Car Rental and the release of escrow funds.

- 120** Authorizing the release of a performance guarantee and portion of the engineering escrow posted by Guzzo Industrial LLC – Block 261, Lot 7.02 and accepting a maintenance bond.

PUBLIC PORTION (Agenda Items only)

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

Greg Seher – 625 Yarmouth Ave. – regarding the road program and coordinating it with the gas company work being done, is there a plan to do it all at once? It is logical to have one person doing the whole road, it could be cheaper that way.

Eddie – we have tried that in the past and the best they've offered if we give them our list of streets that are upped for paving, they will schedule their work to try and get in out quickly. We have asked them to give us the money, so we would get it paved at one time. We will be having them pave half the street and you get more streets done. It gets more done.

Steve – I think he's suggesting we get the contractor to do everything, which could be cost effective. It's a good point.

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 Burroughs – second – Councilman Cavileer
ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Light, yes; Bennett, yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$569,866.37

Motion to approve – Councilman Cavileer – second – Councilman Burroughs
ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Light, yes; Bennett, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

Regular Meeting Minutes – 11/19/2020

Motion to approve – Councilman Burroughs - second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; Light, abstain; Bennett, yes

REPORTS

Jessica – hear from the ACUA and there are delays in yard waste pickup. They are working with some shortages right now. She did meet with them and the tipping fees are increasing a little next year due to contracts they have for recycling and the fact they have additional costs. The sewer fees are not going up, however, due to various issues, Absecon's portion of the flows is increasing. There will be additional costs, but we won't need to adjust rates to residents yet. Leaf collection is going on still, but we are down staff as well. The budget process has started by gathering numbers from departments.

Eddie – the firehouse doors are up and the floors should be done next week, so around the middle of December, we have a tentative date for the movers to come in and it will straddle the holiday, but should be done by the end of the year. Bayview Drive final paving is set for Monday. The project behind city hall is almost completed.

Steve – asked about a TCO for the firehouse

Eddie – not until around mid-December

Steve – the legion asked him to say how very appreciative they are for what the City has done.

Eddie - they have let us use their building as well for an office and we appreciate that too.

Mayor – asked residents to follow restriction guidelines for COVID on holiday gatherings

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Greg Seher – 625 Yarmouth Ave. – asked about the Mill Road project being done now and the dangers of the McDonald's entrance and exit as people go left illegally. Can it be looked into?

Eddie – we did inquire about that with the County a couple of years ago, but they don't like installing pilons because they get run over. He will follow up. Steve asked him to follow up again on the signage on Rt. 30 around Michigan Avenue.

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

Police Chief – there is a lot of construction in neighboring communities and it's a good idea that the public leaves earlier now to anticipate the stop and go traffic. Pitney Road project is about two weeks, but the Mill Road one he doesn't know. In the past when he has asked the County to install pilons, they have been denied since they constantly get destroyed.

Sandy – Santa in the Park is 12/4 from 6:30-7:30. Announced locations for toy drop offs around town.

Caleb – it was announced today in school that the Teacher of the Year and support professionals. He congratulated Kerry Roberts for the Attales School; Jessica Fay for the Marsh School; Mimi Deleener and Brook Howlett for professional for both schools.

Steve – thanked volunteer Bill Niederhoffer who power washed the flag poles, monuments and upper deck at Veteran's Park.

Keith – congratulated the Blue Devils Taxi, Pee Wee and the Varsity teams who all won a conference championship. JV came in second and varsity was undefeated this season.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 12.17.2020