



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 5TH, 2024
MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor Horton

MOMENT OF SILENCE - In honor of athletic volunteer, John Gorman, and longtime Absecon Police Dept. employee, Vicki Bocelle

Chief Laughlin: Praised Vicki Bocelle as a person and employee. Stated that her legacy will be lasting in the Absecon PD.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Alex Clark, Richard DeRose, Tommy Marrone, Christine Parker, and Council President Nick LaRotonda

ABSENT: Councilwoman Sandy Cain

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

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2024 RESOLUTIONS

147 A Resolution of appreciation to the Culinary Students of Absegami High School.

Councilwoman Parker: Read the Resolution in its entirety and presented it to the students.

Council President LaRotonda: Thanked the students for recognizing Absecon seniors.

Councilman DeRose: Shared that he was stopped twice by seniors in town raving about the students' conversation and kindness.

Motioned to move Resolution 147-2024: Councilwoman Parker; Seconded: Councilman DeRose

Roll Call: Cain – Absent; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes

148 A Resolution recognizing Eagle Scout, Alexander Savov.

Council President LaRotonda: Read the Resolution in its entirety. Thanked Alex Savov for his contribution to this community.

Councilman Light: Offered congratulations. Praised his efforts and diligence in this project.

Motioned to move Resolution 148-2024: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman DeRose

Roll Call: Cain – Absent; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes

2024 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

Motioned for the second reading of Ordinance #18-2024: Councilman DeRose; Seconded: Councilman Clark

Roll Call: Cain – Absent; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes

- 18** Amending and supplementing Chapter 224 – Zoning, of the Code of the City of Absecon and repealing all Ordinances heretofore adopted, the provisions of which are inconsistent herewith.

Motioned to open the meeting to the public for comment or discussion of Ordinance #18-2024:

Councilman DeRose; Seconded: Councilman Marrone

All in Favor, None Opposed.

No discussion.

Motioned to close the public portion: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman DeRose

All in Favor, None Opposed.

Motioned for the final reading and adoption of Ordinance #18-2024: Councilman DeRose; Seconded: Councilman Clark

Roll Call: Cain – Absent; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes

Ordinance #18-2024 has been heard and is finally approved.

2024 RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA

- 149** Authorizing payment for damage to a Resident's private basketball hoop.
- 150** Approving the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the 2024 Municipal Budget to allow for the receipt of \$3,500.00 from the State of New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety.
- 151** Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the Crestview Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements for the City of Absecon.
- 152** Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Township of Galloway for Dispatch Services.

153 Authorizing the City of Absecon to award a Contract for the Meadowview Avenue Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation.

154 Authorizing the Transfer of Appropriations into the 2024 Local Municipal Budget per N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58.

PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)

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

No discussion.

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

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

Motioned to move Consent Agenda: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Marrone

Roll Call: Cain – Yes; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST - \$ 2,013,182.76 – 11/21/2024

\$ 96,620.41 – 12/3/2024

\$ 2,109,803.17

Motioned to accept: Councilwoman Parker; Seconded: Councilman Light

Roll Call: Cain – Yes; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 11/7/2024

Motioned to accept: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Clark

Roll Call: Cain – Yes; Clark – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; Parker – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

REPORTS

Councilwoman Parker – Community Affairs: The Saturday before Thanksgiving, Community Affairs partnered with the Absecon PD to give out turkeys to those in need. Family names were provided by three churches in town. Dog food donations were provided by Absecon Vet. The families were very appreciative of the donations. This past Tuesday was the Annual Tree Lighting. The event was attended by the Middle School Choir. Downtown Absecon businesses donated hot chocolate and offered special deals for that night. On Friday at 6:30PM will be the Fire Dept.'s Santa in the Park event. On Saturday, December 14th, there will be Pets Pictures with Santa at Absecon Vet from 10AM-2PM. Santa will be going out on the Fire Truck on Friday December 13th and Saturday December 14th. Community Affairs will not meet in January.

Councilman DeRose – Public Safety: Will not meet again until February. On behalf of the Fire Dept., announced that the burn restriction is lifted for approved fire pits, etc.

Chief Laughlin – Police Dept.: Check the batteries in smoke detectors. Urged the public to test their Christmas lights before placing them on houses/Christmas trees. Cautioned the public not to use old wires or extension cords. Reminded the public to be aware of their speed while driving. Warned about people who may be looking to commit any type of fraud. Urged the public to “see something, say something.” Encouraged those with Ring cameras to please register with the Police

Dept. Asked for public support for the Fire Dept. tomorrow night at Santa in the Park. Wished everyone a joyful holiday season.

Councilman Marrone – Public Works: Met this past Monday. Discussed Crestview Avenue and more brainstorming in regard to the County and raising Shore Rd. Praised the Absecon Green Team's Community Garden. Commended Public Works for the beautiful tree for at Tree Lighting Ceremony. Wished everyone a happy holiday and new year.

Councilman Clark – Finance: Met two weeks ago and reviewed the budget for this year. Stated that they are in good standing.

Councilman Light – Parks and Playgrounds: Met on the 19th of last month. Commended Public Works for their hard work. Discussed reaching out to Rob Reed about the clock tower restoration. Will meet on the 17th of this month. Public is welcome.

PRESENTATION – Swearing in of Officer Gregory O'Connell

J. Thompson – CFO/Administrator: No report.

City Clerk: Monthly Report – October 2024

- Municipal Court: \$10,210.41
- Tax Office: \$1,773,348.03
- Construction Office: \$29,636
- Municipal Clerk's Office: \$4,963

E. Dennis – City Engineer: Announced two grants. One is the 2025 Municipal Aid Grant (\$275k) for our roadway, specifically Delaware Ave. (between Route 9 and Huron), and the other is a special grant from an NJDOT grant fund. The City received \$578k for raised crosswalks throughout the city at intersections. Expects 15-20. Will figure out best locations for use of funds. The decorative street lights are at the Streetscape location. The Crestview Ave. Project is moving along. The contractor will be paving Chelsea and Woodcrest next week. There will also be paving on New Jersey Ave. For the Shore Rd. Project they are waiting on just one last easement. The sewer rehab on Meadow Ave is to conduct a slip lining project. The bid came in below budget.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

No discussion.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carrie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 12-19-24