



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 17, 2022

REGULAR MEETING - 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Betty Howell.

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, Cain, Cavileer, LaRotonda, Light, Poley, Howell

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Horton, Jessica Thompson, Bill Blaney, Carie Crone, Eddie Dennis

STATEMENT OF THE SUNSHINE LAW

NOTIFICATION THAT THIS MEETING IS ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2022 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

- 04** Appropriating \$44,796.44 proceeds of obligations not needed for their original purposes to provide for additional services in the 2022 Road Program.

Motion to introduce – Councilman Cavileer – second – Councilman Burroughs

Jessica – we are transferring some funds from last year's capital program that we are not using and putting them into the road program that we are doing for this year. The reason we are doing this now is because we need to do some preliminary work on our sewer and storm lines in the area of NY Avenue that will be necessary for the major subdivision. It will help in the design process and these funds are available now allowing them to begin that work instead of waiting for the bond ordinance. Roll Call: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, Yes

2022 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

- 02** An Ordinance of the City of Absecon to exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation limits and to establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A-45.14).

Motion for second reading – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman Cavileer

Roll Call: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, Yes

Jessica – we do this every year and we are under the cap by \$559,000, and this establishes the cap each year and keep us ready for future expenditures if we need it.

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Cavileer – second – Councilwoman Poley

All were in favor.

No public comment

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

All were in favor.

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Cavileer – second – Councilman Burroughs

Roll Call: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, Yes

- 3** Amending the Code of the City of Absecon to repeal Chapter 195; to adopt a new Chapter 195; to adopt Flood Hazard Maps; to designate a Flood plan Administrator and providing for severability and an effective date.

Motion for second reading – Councilwoman Cain – second – Councilman LaRotonda

Roll Call: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, Yes

Jessica – this is mandated by FEMA for continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. This ordinance had to be reviewed by the state and they have approved it.

Motion to open to the public – Councilman LaRotonda – second – Councilwoman Poley

All were in favor.

No public comment

Motion to close public – Councilman LaRotonda – second – Councilwoman Poley

All were in favor.

Motion for final reading and adoption – Councilman Cavileer – second – Councilwoman Cain

Roll Call: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, Yes

2022 RESOLUTIONS

- 51** Authorizing the Tax Collector to participate in an Electronic Tax Sale.

Jessica – we have been doing this for many years and have great success with them. It will be held on May 18th.

- 52** Authorizing a fee for the creation, printing and mailing of Tax Sale Notices for an Electronic Tax Sale.

Jessica – this is part of the process and we need to send out notices and this specifies the fees we can charge

- 53** Authorizing the release of a Maintenance Guarantee posted by Terra Enterprises, LLC.

Jessica – it's a completed project and their funds can be returned

- 54** Appointing Reverend Louis Strugala as Police Chaplain in the Absecon Police Department.

Jessica – we passed the ordinance for this and now we are appointing someone

- 55** Appointing a Full-Time Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant, namely Mary Fetske.

Jessica – this is filling a vacancy in the clerk's office

- 56** Re-Appointing an Emergency Management Coordinator, namely James Eberwine.

Jessica – he is being reappointed for a three-year term

PUBLIC PORTION – (For Agenda items only)

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Light – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

No public comment.

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

All were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda: All matters listed under Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by this 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 considered separately.

Betty read: Resolutions #51 to 56 again

Motion to move consent agenda – Councilman LaRotonda - second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, yes

Chief Laughlin – explained that a chaplain is a bridge to the community. Lou will be here to not only help the police officers, but the community as well. The state of NJ has identified resiliency for officers is a very important training aspect. He is excited and proud to have Lou on board. He was a boy scout who got his eagle badge and then an auxiliary police officer for 7 years; and he's lived all over the country. He moved back to care for his parents and after 9/11 he went into the ministry. He believes in helping us and has been a chaplain for ten years.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor, Kimberly Horton swore in Lou at this time.

Lou – appreciates the opportunity to serve Absecon. He lives here in town and he likes it. He has noticed that police officers get beaten up regularly. We expect a lot from them and they suffer many tragic events over their careers. They need all of us to support them and he hopes he can be the bridge to get them to be resilient. He wants them to go home safe and knowing they did the best they could for the public and retire happy and normal.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$1,902,372.47

Motion to accept: Councilman Cavileer - second – Councilwoman Cain

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 3/3/2022

Closed Session as to form and content only – 2/17/22

Motion to accept: – Councilman Light - second – Councilman LaRotonda

ROLL CALL: Burroughs, yes; Cain, yes; Cavileer, yes; LaRotonda, yes; Light, yes; Poley, yes; Howell, yes

REPORTS

Steve Light – Parks & Playgrounds - no report his next meeting is 3/22

Donna Poley – Community Affairs - announced upcoming events and current happenings. Her next meeting is 4/7

Sandy Cain – Public Safety – they met 3/7 and Jim Eberwine was in attendance along with Tony and Jim now has a desk here at city hall and will be able to spread out a little bit and we're happy that he is here for another three years. The ambulance squad has had 351 calls this year. Roy Talley represented the fire department and said the general contractor is now checking on the floor, which has been a problem with the firehouse. The police chief said they are hiring two class 2 officers. Her next meeting is 4/4 at 4:30 p.m.

Caleb Cavileer – Finance – they met tonight and we all worked together to get a zero-cent increase in our budget this year, which will be finalized on 4/7. There is a possibility that the school might get an increase in aid, which could be \$1,200,000.00. The municipalities have not received aid since 2012. Monthly payments will begin soon to the ACUA and the trash cans should be here by June.

Butch Burroughs – Public Works – no meeting this month, but spring leaf pickup will be 4/11 to 5/6. The signs and new clamshells have been placed down at Faunce Landing Boat Ramp. The baseball fields are starting to get work done on them for the season. Lighting will should be done next week. The next meeting will be 4/19.

Steve – announced all the lights that we pay AC Electric for every month, can be identified and you can go online to report outages.

Nick Larotonda – Economic Development – the New Jersey Economic Development Authority will be hosting a seminar on April 20th at 4:30 p.m. here in Council Chambers to discuss three different grant opportunities for our business owners in town. Mr. Patel has started his construction along New Road and hopes to open by mid fall. He is looking forward to White Horse Liquors building at the Redevelopment Site.

Jessica – announced that the summer concerts series should be finalized soon

MONTHLY REPORTS – Carie

Tax Collection - \$4,010,141.31

Municipal Court - \$8,937.44

Construction - \$6,397.00

Mayor – she explained the new type of bags that businesses will be able to get and the fines that they will receive if they don't follow the rules. She wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

PUBLIC PORTION

Motion to open to the public – Councilman Light – second – Councilwoman Cain

All were in favor.

No public portion

Motion to close public – Councilman LaRotonda – second – Councilwoman Poley

All were in favor.

CLOSED SESSION - #57-2022 – Potential Litigation

Bill Blaney – city solicitor – the reason for closed session is potential litigation. There will be no action taken tonight.

Motion to enter closed session – Councilman Light – second – Councilman Cavileer

All were in favor.

Bill – it's now 6:45 p.m. and we are back into open session and no action will be taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn – Councilman Burroughs – second – Councilman LaRotonda

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 4-7-22