



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

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Municipal Clerk

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CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 19TH, 2026 6:00 PM
MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Mayor Thomas Marrone, Councilmembers Linda Evans and Nick LaRotonda

ALSO PRESENT: City Solicitor John Amenhauser Esq., City Clerk Carie Crone, Police Chief J.R. Laughlin, Engineer Nick DiCosmo and Administrator Jessica Snyder

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2026 RESOLUTIONS

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.

- 66 Authorizing maintenance and support for the Public Safety Communications System by ProPheonix.
- 67 Authorizing landscaping and recreational field maintenance throughout the City of Absecon by R.W. Brown.

- 68 Authorizing for HVAC services for various departments by Falasca Mechanical, Inc.
- 69 Authorizing the solicitation for proposals for Municipal Court Judgement Collection Services.
- 70 Authorizing an Emergency Temporary Appropriation in the 2026 Temporary Budget.
- 71 Permitting a Charitable Organization to solicit fund, namely the Absecon 9-11 Memorial Founders Committee, Inc. for May.
- 72 Permitting a Charitable Organization to solicit fund, namely the Absecon 9-11 Memorial Founders Committee, Inc. for August.

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 Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker
All in Favor, None Opposed.

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$540,693.22

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

Budget Meeting Minutes – 2/12/26

Regular Meeting Minutes – 2/19/2026

Motioned to accept: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilman Sykes

Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans – Absent; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes for 2/19, Abstain for 2/12
Parker – Yes to 2/19, Abstain from 2/12; Sykes – Yes; DeRose – Yes

REPORTS

Councilman Sykes – Parks & Playgrounds: Moved meeting to the 25th, due to original meeting night was St. Patrick's Day. Myself and Councilman Light looked at the lights that are out at the ASAC Baseball Field.

A. Clark – Lloyd contacted the contractor after that meeting and they will be here within two weeks to fix the lights.

M. Sykes – Great, so we have a timeline, thank you both for getting that done. We also have the concerts set and will be getting that out to the public.

Councilwoman Parker – Public Safety: Have not met since last meeting, next meeting will be the first Monday in April @6pm. New Officer Matthew Keller has started and have received a few positive feedbacks for the Police Department, Fire Department and EMS.

A. Clark – For the last few weeks the Police Department has been at March Madness every night and they've been doing a great job. We appreciate your time.

Councilman Clark – Finance: We met with the Financial Team that we put together to discuss budget issues. Working on ways to get some revenues and some cost savings ideas.

Councilman Light – Public Works – Next meeting April 6th @5pm, public is welcome. Thanked the County, see them out on California Avenue, repaving, also for taking care of the roads and tree damage during the storm. And that you to Public Works for the work they do every day. And also stopped by to thank the Fire Department for all they do.

Council President DeRose: To echo Councilman Clark, it's budget season and they have been going through everything, I commend Alex and his advisory committee of residents along with the Finance Committee because it's definitely busy season for them.

City Clerk: Monthly Report – February 2026

Municipal Clerk's Office: \$2,471

Construction Office: \$6,493

Tax Office: \$4,565,295.51

Municipal Court: \$9,320.43

N. DiCosmo – Shore Road Project, currently out to bid, bid opening is set for March 31st at the County Offices. Should hear about the Local Recreation Improvement Grant in early April, that's the grant that was submitted for the Pole Barn. Spoke to Asphalt Paving System today, they anticipate starting in two to three weeks to start with concrete work on Woodcrest Court and then will be moving on to Burning Tree and lastly Delaware Avenue. Completed the additional survey work needed for the raised crosswalk and finishing up design now.

A. Clark – Can you give a timeline on that, people ask me every day.

N. DiCosmo – End of this month, early April to submit to D.O.T. D.O.T. normally takes about a month to review, assuming no comments and we submit early April, we should go out to bid May/June. Still working through some projects to potentially be included in the Budget. Spoke to the Chief earlier about a complaint about the intersection on Pennsylvania Ave. and Pitney Rd. about a month or so ago, I did send an email out to APS to see if we can get a price to reconstruct that. It's about a 40-50ft section, hoping while they're in town we can get a price and then discuss with Council to see if it's something they want to do. It's pretty deteriorated.

Chief Laughlin – It's probably on of the worse sections in the City.

N. DiCosmo – Lastly, for Councilman Light, I did reach out to my contact at the DPU about some of the lighting improvements that you asked about. They suggest that we get a Local Government Energy Audit done of the City's buildings. It's a free service the DPU provides. They'll access your current energy usage and then provide any recommendations for upgrades that can maybe be done through an energy savings improvement program, which is typically done at no cost. She also gave contacts at Atlantic City Electric and S.J. Gas that strictly work with incentive programs, so I'll pursuing that and see what we can get.

M. Sykes – I was asking Ed about something like that earlier, looking for some kind of grant to upgrade the lights and get them switched over to LED. Hoping to be able to just change the housing.

S. Light – I spoke with our representative from Atlantic Electric and complimented them on finally getting our lighting issue on task and taken care of. Had a nice conversation and they gave me a specific contact to not have to go through this long process again and suggested to have periodic meetings.

A. Clark – Ed and I spoke regarding the exit to McDonald's and have sent reports from the Police Department, do you know if we've heard anything back?

N. DiCosmo – I know Ed had sent an email, but I haven't seen a response, but will follow up.

A. Clark – At the light at Pitney we talked about putting in the bollards, so people didn't go into the yellow to early, I know Ed mentioned something to the County but didn't know where we stood.

N. DiCosmo – I'll follow up on that also.

J. Snyder – Due to an upcoming retirement we are hiring for a Full Time Public Works Laborer. Reminder quarterly sewer charges are due April 1st.

Chief Laughlin – A resident had a complaint about one of the utilities opening up the street to do some work in front of their house and we're working on figuring out what utility company that was so we can have them come back out and fix it. Welcomed Matthew Keller, new police officer graduated the academy last Thursday. With day light savings and warm weather people are out enjoying the weather, please plan ahead to give yourself more time, be aware of pedestrians and don't forget to adjust your lighting. Please lock up your vehicles and look out for your neighbors.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Greg Seher – 625 Yarmouth – Thanked Councilman Clark for bringing up the McDonald's issue, because I usually do.

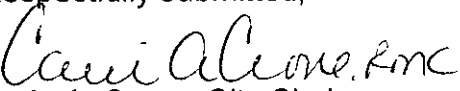
A. Clark – We're requesting and hoping for an in-person meeting.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carrie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 5-7-26