



CITY OF ABSECON
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CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 1ST, 2023 6:30 PM

MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Butch Burroughs, Sandy Cain, Betty Howell, Steve Light, Tommy Marrone, and Council President Pro-Tem Richard DeRose

ABSENT: Council President Nick LaRotonda

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Kim Horton, City Administrator/CFO Jessica Thompson, City Solicitor Bill Blaney Esq., City Clerk Carie Crone, Police Chief J.R. Laughlin

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2023 ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

- 12** Amending Ordinance 08-2023-Amending Chapter 216 of the City of Absecon Code, Governing Hotel and Motel Registration.

Motioned for a first reading: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Marrone

Councilwoman Howell: Stated that she had several questions pertaining to this ordinance. Asked if a Committee has met with the hotel owners.

B. Blaney: Confirmed.

Councilwoman Howell: Questioned who was supposed to be responsible for providing the rest of Council an update regarding the meeting's outcome.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Was not at the meeting so cannot provide an answer to her question.

Councilwoman Howell: Expressed issue with the fact that neither she, nor Councilmembers Burroughs and Cain, were notified about anything discussed within the meeting (e.g. changes, agreements, actions to be taken, who is responsible). Questioned how they could vote on the Ordinance without being properly informed.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Commented that the ordinance is simply being introduced, not adopted right now.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked for more information about the ordinance.

B. Blaney: Clarified to Council that the changes included expanding the tenancy limit from 14 days in a 30-day period to 28 days in a 35-day period. Another change is that if a motel/hotel notifies the Police Dept. that someone is overstaying as a defiant trespasser, they will be held liable for the fine typically imposed, as they made effort to take necessary action. These changes were based upon suggestions discussed during the Committee meeting.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Reminded Councilwoman Howell that this ordinance was emailed to all Councilmembers prior to this Council Meeting. Questioned whether Councilwoman Howell received the Meeting Packet provided by the City Clerk.

Councilwoman Howell: Denied receiving it.

Clerk Carrie Crone: Challenged Councilwoman Howell's claim, advising her that the Meeting Packet was sent to all members of Council on Tuesday. Informed her they were sent via email, which is the same way they have been sent before every Council Meeting for the past several years. Reiterated that she sent every Councilmember the Meeting Packet on Tuesday.

Councilwoman Howell: Claims she knew what topics were to be discussed at the Council Meeting, but she wanted information about the hotel/motel Committee Meeting.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Stated his understanding was that the attendees included Mayor Horton, Councilmembers Light and Marrone, and Council President LaRotonda.

Councilmember Light: Added that the City Administrator and City Solicitor were also present.

Councilman Marrone: Provided Councilwoman Howell a more thorough explanation of the meeting, but indicated that, overall, it was very positive and successful. The motel/hotel owners came and worked together with the City in order to achieve a happy-medium, whereby the City is able to remain strong in their priority of ensuring public safety, while also making active effort to be business-friendly. Concluded that by the end of the meeting, everyone seemed satisfied with the outcome. Apologized for not sharing this information with Councilwoman Howell earlier, but had assumed she would have been updated by one of the other attendees, but assured her that he won't do make that assumption again moving forward.

Councilman Light: Affirmed that, for the past six years, every time he has received the emailed Meeting Packet, he has made a point to read it and to also provide acknowledgement to the City Clerk. Claimed that if he failed to receive such an email before the Council Meeting, he would have known to reach out to other Councilmembers.

Councilwoman Howell: Stated she received the Meeting Packet email from the City Clerk, but complained that she was not provided an email summarizing the details of the hotel/motel meeting.

Councilman Marrone: Reminded her that Ordinance #12, in its entirety, was included on page 3 of the Meeting Packet, that she, herself, admitted to receiving and reading days prior.

Councilwoman Cain: Believes Councilwoman Howell was hoping for a separate email from someone who attended the Committee Meeting clarifying its content and outcome.

Councilwoman Howell: Confirmed that was correct.

Councilman Marrone: Asked whether Councilwoman Howell knew the meeting was scheduled.

Councilwoman Howell: Confirmed.

Councilwoman Cain: Based on the present audience's reaction to Councilman Marrone's description of the meeting, assumes that the hotel owners were pleased with the outcome.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Explained to the public that Councilmembers receive a Meeting Packet, days prior to every Council Meeting. All Councilmembers are expected to read all the Packets contents so they are aware of what they will be responsible for voting upon. Packets are purposely provided well ahead of each Council Meeting, so that all Councilmembers have the

opportunity to ask any questions they may have, and/or be prepared to discuss it. Disclosed that his understanding of the outcome of the bipartisan meeting was exactly as successful as Councilman Marrone described. Reiterated to the public that Councilmembers are responsible for making themselves aware of all topics they are expected to be voting upon.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked whether the Police Dept. will be required to remove any transient occupants they are notified about.

B. Blaney: Indicated that is generally their responsibility. If the Police receive notification that there is a transient occupant trespassing, the Police will remove the occupant, just as they would in any normal course of trespassing. Shared this is why the City will not impose a fine on motel/hotels if they notify the Police, as they would be doing their part in notifying the City that the person is there. The City does not want to fine anyone who is compliant.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Clarified to the public that the ordinance has only been introduced, so there remains the possibility for further discussion on the topic in the future. Stated that Ordinance #12 is the product of, from his understanding, a positive meeting between the Administrator, Councilmembers, and hotel/motel owners. Some changes were decided upon, and therefore addressed by the Ordinance in question.

Councilwoman Howell: Challenged Councilman DeRose's claim that the meeting was bipartisan.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Reiterated his initial declaration that the Committee Meeting was, in fact, bipartisan.

Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

This Ordinance will be posted, laid over, and published according to law. A Public Hearing, second, and final reading will be held on June 15th, 2023.

2023 ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

Motioned for the second reading of Ordinance #11-2023: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Burroughs

Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

11 Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 69, Article IV, Section 69-35 – Payment for Off-duty Assignments.

Motioned to open the meeting to the public for comment or discussion of Ordinance #11-2023:

Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Marrone

All in Favor, None Opposed

No Discussion.

Motioned to close the public portion: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Burroughs

All in Favor, None Opposed.

Motioned for the final reading and adoption of Ordinance #11-2023: Councilman Marrone;

Seconded: Councilman Burroughs

Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

Ordinance #11-2023 has been heard and is finally approved.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

- 79 Approving the insertion of a Special Item of Revenue into the 2023 Municipal Budget to allow for the receipt of \$23,793.86 from the State of New Jersey Clean Communities.
- 80 Authorizing the refund of an overpayment of taxes for 2023 on the listed property.
- 81 Authorizing a refund of an overpayment of taxes for the 2nd quarter of 2023 on the listed property.
- 82 Authorizing the execution of the Lead Grant Assistance Program Agreement.

PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)

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

Alex Perri – 620 Yarmouth Avenue: Requested information regarding Resolution #79-23, being revenue received from NJ Clean Communities.

J. Thompson: The Resolution pertains to a grant received by the City to be added into the budget for the Clean Communities Program.

A. Perri: Questioned how the City would receive that grant and how they anticipate using the funds.

J. Thompson: The City receives the grant annually and its amount is based on tonnage reports and other data provided to the State.

A. Perri: Asked if the money is just added to general City revenue.

J. Thompson: Specified that the funds are meant for certain purposes.

James Reilly – 461 White Horse Pike: Currently staying at the Starlite Motor Inn. Provided background explaining his ties to Absecon and how he ended up living in the city. Asked Council to permit his continued tenancy in Absecon.

B. Blaney: Assured J. Reilly that if he stayed until the end of the meeting, he and Police Chief Laughlin would be more than willing to speak with him about options available to him.

Ravi Patel – Sunrise Motel (Manager): Expressed that he was very satisfied with the outcome of the hotel/motel meeting, however indicated some current concerns. During the meeting, the City said they would provide hotel/motel owners a register template. Concerned about having the proper information prepared for an inspection, so asked Council when they should expect to receive it.

B. Blaney: Hotel/motel owners will be provided the template before the Ordinance is adopted.

R. Patel: Questioned whether the Police could remove an occupant after a stay of 28 days.

B. Blaney: Clarified that the Police would technically be responding to a trespass. If hotel/motel owners notify the Police of the trespass, the establishments will not incur any fine.

R. Patel: Asked, if the occupants do not leave after the tenancy limit, should the hotels should collect their payment for accommodation.

B. Blaney: Established that hotels/motels should not be collecting money from people who legally should not be staying there.

R. Patel: Complained about the loss of revenue they would then suffer.

B. Blaney: Assured R. Patel that the Police will attempt to remove trespassers on the day they are reported.

R. Patel: Referred to the State law, which applies to them, that declares occupants of 90+ days to be considered permanent tenants. Has already made plans with others to work as a team in effort to transition those permanent tenants to alternative housing. Asked what action hotel/motel owners should take if these tenants do not find alternative housing within the time limit.

B. Blaney: Hotels/motels cannot evict these people because they are legal tenants, nor is the City asking them to. If they are already tenants, the hotels will need to work through the process of an eventual eviction, as they are prohibited from just locking tenants out.

R. Patel: Asked if, in that case, they could collect payment for accommodation.

B. Blaney: Confirmed.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked B. Blaney to describe that State law more thoroughly.

B. Blaney: Explained that if someone lives in a facility of this kind for 90 days, they legally become tenants. This requires the facility to follow state eviction procedures in order to remove those tenants. That kind of eviction must meet certain requirements. The City could not hold them responsible for evicting already established tenants, however, due to the wording of the ordinance, hotels should not be acquiring any new tenants.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked how this would apply to J. Reilly.

B. Blaney: Needs to speak with J. Reilly in order to achieve a better understanding of his specific situation.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked B. Blaney if he plans on making exceptions.

B. Blaney: Rejected that notion. Clarified to Councilwoman Howell, that the City will act in accordance with the law.

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

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.

Council President Pro-Tem DeRose read Resolutions #79-82 by title.

Motioned to move the Consent Agenda: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Marrone
Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$397,010.51

Motioned to accept: Councilwoman Howell; Seconded: Councilwoman Cain

Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 5/18/23

Closed Session as to form and content only – 5/4/23

Motioned to accept: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Burroughs

Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes (5/4/23), Abstain (5/18/23); Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent

REPORTS

Councilman Light – Parks & Playgrounds Committee: Have not met since last Council Meeting. Expressed a special “thank you” to the City’s Police, Firefighters, and Public Works. The City looked great for Memorial Day Weekend. Also thanked everyone’s (e.g. the Mayor, Administration, schools, veterans) group effort which enabled such a proud and successful event. Next Committee Meeting will be on June 20th at 7PM in City Hall. Invited Green Team Co-Chair Alex Perri up to speak.

A.Perri – Absecon Green Team: Next meeting will be June 6th at the Garden State Beer Co. Addressed several items: Wants to host a Volunteer Day and to ideally announce it at the next Green Team meeting; Interested in hosting a Vine-Cut in Heritage Park towards the end of July.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked if he has gotten approval.

Mayor Horton: Asked if he discussed this with Lloyd Jones (Public Works) yet.

A.Perri: Has not spoken with Lloyd Jones.

Councilwoman Howell: Informed A. Perri that, before any action of the kind he mentioned is taken, it must first be approved by Lloyd Jones in Public Works.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Encouraged A. Perri to send Lloyd Jones an email and to CC himself and Councilman Light (Green Team Committee members).

Councilman Marrone: Suggested included Councilman Burroughs (Public Works Committee Chair) in the correspondence.

A.Perri: Expressed interest in attending the Public Works Committee Meetings. Is aware that Lloyd Jones attends them as well. Mentioned possibly inviting Lloyd Jones to the Parks & Playgrounds Committee Meetings, so that it is more convenient for him to speak with Lloyd. Indicated he could not attend the Public Works Committee Meeting because it is scheduled early in the day.

Councilwoman Cain: Clarified that the Meetings are scheduled for that time because it worked best for Lloyd Jones.

A.Perri: Is unsure how to go about communication. Hoped to somehow open communication with Lloyd so that his plans may be approved. Explained that Go Green Galloway gets a significant amount of funding through Clean Communities. Invited the City’s Recycling/Clean Communities Coordinator to the Green Team Meeting, but has not heard a response. Believes there is money from Clean Communities for the Green Team.

Council President Pro-Tem DeRose: Asked Councilman Light and Councilman Burroughs to get in touch with him to discuss the Green Team’s options further.

Councilman Marrone – Economic Development: Has not met since May 3rd. The next meeting will be on Wednesday June 7th at 4:30PM in the Conference Room. All are welcome.

Councilwoman Cain – Finance Committee: Have not met since last Council Meeting. Hopefully by their next Council Meeting the Bond Ordinance’s waiting period will be over, so that the City will have the money to begin anticipated projects. Next meeting will be June 15th, but because of Graduation, the Meeting will meet at 3:00PM.

Councilwoman Howell – Community Affairs Committee: Met prior to the Council Meeting. Their Senior Brunch, on May 20th and the Memorial Day Parade that took place over the past weekend were successful. Shared that military veteran Councilmember DeRose gave a very moving speech. Thanked everyone who turned out to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Has been working with Donna Poley and Police Officer Epstein to prepare for the upcoming Christmas in July Movie in the Park, which will be on Friday, July 7th at 7:30PM (rain date: July 8th). The event will be featuring The Santa Clause. Requests that people bring unwrapped toys to donate for the Police to provide to those in need. National Night Out will be on August 1st from 6PM-9PM.

Chief Laughlin – On June 17th the Police Dept. will be hosting Hooked on Fishing, encouraged families to come out. National Night Out will be on August 1st at Pitney Field. Hoping to see turnout from the Prosecutor's Office and local businesses.

Councilman Light: Thanked Chief Laughlin for him and his Dept.'s work. In regard to National Night Out, mentioned possibly setting up coordination between the Police and Community Affairs to have Flags for Forgotten Soldiers attend. Indicated they could possible place the flags (about 630) on the soccer field.

Chief Laughlin: Supported that idea. Also encouraged the Green Team's involvement.

Councilwoman Howell: Continued on sharing that Creekfest will be on Sunday September 17th from 2PM-8PM. Next meet will be Thursday, July 6th, and all are welcome.

Councilman Burroughs – Public Works Committee: Has not met since last Council Meeting. Next meeting will be on June 20th at 3:30PM and is open to the public.

Councilman DeRose – Public Safety Committee: Have not met since last Council Meeting. Thanked the Police Dept., which has been working in overdrive over the past few weeks. Encouraged them to keep up the good work. Thanked local business owners for coming to the Council Meeting that night and actively contributing to ongoing discussion. Wishes the best for the Fire Dept., who has been working hard battling the blaze north of us. Thanked City employees for keeping the City running.

J. Thompson – City Administrator/CFO: ACUA Yard Waste collection continues to be delayed. Concerts in the Park will begin on June 25th and will be every Sunday at 7PM. The schedule has been posted to the website. Next shredding event will be on October 7th in the City Hall parking lot.

E. Dennis – City Engineer: A number of projects are going into the Engineering Phase now (e.g. Road Program, Streetscape Project on New Jersey Ave.). Survey crews have been out and about throughout the city. After they survey, they will move into design. So, over the next few months they will be putting plans together to go out to bid. Bond funding will be available by next meeting. Another upcoming project includes the Crestview Ave. Sidewalk Project. The first project planned pertains to utility hookups at the Heritage Park Concession Stand, which will soon go out to bid.

Councilman Burroughs: Asked E. Dennis if he could provide any update about Illinois Ave.

E. Dennis: Was not told any official decision from the County. But, as he discussed at the last Public Works meeting, the County was considering paving Illinois Ave. while they wait to get the larger Shore Rd. Project off the ground.

Councilman Burroughs: Asked whether E. Dennis had any updates about Royal Farms.

E. Dennis: Not at this time.

Mayor Horton: Thanked VFW #9462, American Legion Post #28, and Community Affairs for putting on another wonderful Memorial Day Parade. Extended thanks to the First Responders who were there to ensure the public's safety. Commended the City's Police Dept. for their amazing performance. She attended the Books vs. Badges Basketball Game, noted that their proceeds will benefit local students. The event was a wonderful opportunity for the Police Dept. to interact with members of the local community in a positive way. Emphasized how these special events are designed for members of the public to connect in a fun and positive way. On May 25th, she reached out to the Governor's Office and was successful in connecting with Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Rob Field. Expressed her continued frustration with the New Jersey Dept. of Education and the Dept.'s refusal to re-evaluate the ruling they made in regard to the Absecon Board of Education the year earlier. She also sent Rob the same information packet she sent Senator Polistina's Chief

of Staff, John Berg. The City's still hopes to end their sending/receiving relationship with Pleasantville so that Absecon students may join the Greater Egg Harbor Regional School District. She and Councilman Burroughs toured of Veteran's Village (formerly Crestview Motel), which will provide housing to homeless veterans over the age of 55. They intend on sharing a presentation showcasing Veteran's Village at the July Council Meeting. Tomorrow morning, she will attend the Attales Middle School's Annual's Honor Breakfast. The event honors students in grades 5-8 who have maintained high honors throughout the last 3 marking periods.

Councilwoman Howell: Thanked Mike Monteith for his hard work in the City's Memorial Day celebration.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

A.Perri – 620 Yarmouth Avenue: Noticed that residents are living, in his opinion, past their property line (relocating yard waste & log piles, making trails, setting up chairs, etc). Encouraged the City to send their Code Enforcement to stop these residents.

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

CLOSED SESSION - #83 – Contract Negotiations

B. Blaney: In accordance with the Open Records Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, the City Council went into Closed Session. Explained the reason to go into Closed Session is to discuss contract negotiations. There will be no action taken afterwards.

Motioned to enter Closed Session: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Burroughs
All in Favor, None Opposed.

(Closed Session)

Motioned to adjourn Closed Session and re-enter the meeting: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Marrone
All in Favor, None Opposed.

REGULAR MEETING

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Asked the New York Ave. Committee members (Council President LaRotonda, and Councilmembers Howell and Marrone) to meet again. Want them to have time to consider the new information, but have another meeting in appropriate time, and then follow up with Council. Emphasized that there is no urgency with the matter. Requested for members of the bi-partisan committee to please inform Council President LaRotonda of this update.

B. Blaney: Suggested E. Dennis report back to Council with the committee's next report.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked why people involved in certain matters aren't allowed in Closed Session.

B. Blaney: Disputed that claim. People are allowed to come to Closed Session, provide information, and then leave. They are not permitted to stay for discussion.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked who B. Blaney provided that information to.

B. Blaney: Indicated that he spoke with J. Thompson.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked why those interested parties weren't invited to join Closed Session.

J. Thompson: Those in question had not been previously mentioned as possible invitees.

Councilwoman Howell: Expressed interest in inviting guests back to Closed Session to discuss topics from Committee.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: The point of the Committees is for the select members to be Council representatives and to, thereafter, be responsible for briefing the remaining members of Council on the information provided. Urged her to take some notes, do some light research and bring that information to Council.

Councilwoman Howell: Preferred to have experts tell the rest of Council directly.

B. Blaney: Assured Councilwoman Howell that she has the option to invite people into Closed Session moving forward.

Councilwoman Howell: Expressed, again, her frustration with the inability to invite people involved in Committee to Closed Session.

B. Blaney: Reiterated to her, that is incorrect. Clarified to Councilwoman Howell, that they would be allowed to come speak, but would be unable to actively participate in debate like a Councilmember. People could be invited to Closed Session to speak in-person or via zoom.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Urged for the Committee to discuss their options and, once a consensus is formed, to move forward with any appropriate action.

Councilman Marrone: He is both confident and satisfied with the detailed explanation E. Dennis has provided Council, which was based on all information presented in Committee.

Councilwoman Howell: Concerned that people can hop between hotels after their 28-day limit is up.

B. Blaney: After a person's 28-limit is up, they are not allowed back to stay for another 7 days. They may stay in the hotel for 28 days in a 35-day period. This prevents anyone from establishing a permanent residency at any of the local hotels/motels. If they've already established permanent residency, however, they fall under landlord-tenant law and cannot be evicted unless through the proper procedures.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked whose responsibility it is to make sure these individuals are abiding by the 28-day limit.

B. Blaney: The hotel owners must tell the visitors to vacate when their 28 days are up. If the visitor refuses to leave, the hotel owners have been instructed to call the police who will help with the trespassing situation.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Reiterated that Councilmembers each receive their Agenda Packet about 48 hours before the Council Meeting. It is the responsibility of every Councilmember to read and understand all the contents of the aforementioned Meeting Packet, especially what they are to be voting on at the meeting. It is thereby the responsibility of Councilmember to ask questions if they have any uncertainty or confusion in regard to anything included in the Meeting Packet. Listed the available resources (professional staff, City staff, fellow Councilmembers, etc.). All clarifying discussions should take place prior to any Council Meetings, as to spare everyone from such bickering matches.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked who she should have contacted.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: As former Council President, Councilwoman Howell knows that she could contact B. Blaney, J. Thompson.

Councilwoman Howell: Asked J. Thompson if she would have been able to provide that information.

J. Thompson: Expressed that she did not consider it her role to provide anyone information from the meeting in question.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Agreed that it was not.

J. Thompson: But while she would not have been able to provide some of the exact particulars discussed in the present meeting, she would have been able to provide general information.

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Shared that J. Thompson has been able to provide him answers to questions he has posed for her. Reiterated, again, the responsibilities of each Councilmember to be both prepared and informed. Believes conversations would be much more fruitful if everyone comes to the meetings properly prepared. Preparative action would also ensure that appropriate items are pulled from a Meeting Agenda prior to the actual meeting itself, if there is further discussion required. If Councilwoman Howell had approached him before the meeting and indicates her uncertainty/confusion regarding the Ordinance, as Council President Pro-Tem, he would have pulled the item from the Agenda and informed the hotel/motel owners of the change.

Councilwoman Howell: Shared that she wanted to Abstain.

Councilman Marrone: Had a prior conversation with Councilwoman Howell and when she shared that she intended to vote against the Ordinance, encouraged her to ask questions before simply voting "no."

President Pro-Tem DeRose: Reminded Councilwoman Howell that no one can tell her how to vote.

B. Blaney: Reminded Council that Ordinances, in their first reading, are not final, and that it's not uncommon for them to change before their second reading.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carrie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 7/6/23