



CITY OF ABSECON
Municipal Complex
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Absecon, New Jersey 08201

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CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 15TH, 2023 3:30 PM

MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Butch Burroughs, Sandy Cain, Richard DeRose, Betty Howell, Steve Light, Tommy Marrone and Council President Nick LaRotonda

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

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2023 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

Motioned for the second reading of Ordinance #12-2023: Councilman Marrone; Seconded: Councilman DeRose

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

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

Motioned to open the meeting to the public for comment or discussion of Ordinance #12-2023: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman Marrone
All in Favor, None Opposed

No Discussion.

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

Motioned for the final reading and adoption of Ordinance #12-2023: Councilman Marrone;

Seconded: Councilwoman Cain

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

Ordinance #12-2023 has been heard and is finally approved.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

- 77** Authorizing a Person-To-Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License issued to LPJS, LLC. t/a Reddog's Hi Point.
- 84** Authorizing the submission of a Grant Application and the execution of a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Crestview Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements – Phase 2.
- 85** Authorizing the submission of a Grant Application and the execution of a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Reconstruction of Woodcrest Avenue and Chelsea Road (Priority 1).
- 86** Authorizing the submission of a Grant Application and the execution of a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Reconstruction of Delaware Avenue (Priority 2).
- 87** Authorizing the release of a Maintenance Guarantee and Engineer Escrow posted by Guzzo Industrial, LLC.
- 88** Authorizing the release of Escrow Funds posted by Maria Yaqoob.
- 89** Authorizing the release of a Maintenance Guarantee for Conifer-Lechase Construction, LLC, Block 289, Lots 2, 3 & 11.
- 90** Authorizing the City Engineer, Remington & Vernick, to perform engineering and construction services for the Crestview Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements.

Ed Dennis: It's the time of year when they will be submitting annual grant applications to the DOT. Two grants will be submitted under the Municipal Aid Program (primary program for providing grant funding for road improvements). Priority #1 includes Woodcrest Ave. and Chelsea Rd., and Priority #2 is Delaware Ave. There are additional grants available this year through Safe Streets to Transit Grant which provides funding for pedestrian safety improvements. The City was successful in attaining that funding for the Crestview Ave. Sidewalk Project. Additional funds are being pursued for a project that would connect that new sidewalk through Pitney Park, to the existing Pitney Park trail. Regarding Resolution #90, now that the budget is in place, Engineering can move forward with work on the Crestview Ave. Sidewalk Project.

PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)

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

No Discussion.

Motioned to close to the public: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilman DeRose
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 LaRotonda read Resolutions #77, 84-90 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 – Yes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – 1,397,175.71

Motioned to accept: Councilwoman Cain; Seconded: Councilman DeRose
Roll Call: Burroughs – Yes; Cain – Yes; DeRose – Yes; Howell – Yes; Light – Yes; Marrone – Yes; LaRotonda – Yes

REPORTS

Councilman Burroughs – Public Works: Have not met since last Council Meeting. Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 20th at 3:30PM. The public is welcome.

Councilman Richard DeRose – Public Safety: Have not met since last Council Meeting. Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 20th at 6PM. The public is welcome.

Councilwoman Howell – Community Affairs: Have not met since last Council Meeting. Next meeting will be July 6th. July 7th will be the Christmas in July Movie in the Park (rain date July 8th). Recent Planning Board Meeting was canceled.

Councilman DeRose: Announced that the Absecon American Legion Clambake is next Saturday.

Councilwoman Cain – Finance: Met earlier this afternoon. Discussed possible ways to save money on insurance, as well as beginning the process of securing long-term debt (note vs. bond). Next meeting will be July 20th at 5:30PM. The public is welcome.

Councilman Marrone – Economic Development: Their current focus is the beautification of New Jersey Ave. and drawing small business to the area. There is a new store opening on New Jersey Ave. soon called Oddball Vintage. Discussed setting up a meeting with the state. There is funding available for beautification which would help the New Jersey Ave./Downtown districts. Spoke to the owners of Royal Bine Brewery who indicated that their plans are moving forward. Owners of both, Oddball Vintage and Royal Bine Brewery, have expressed their enthusiasm about being part of Absecon's Downtown rejuvenation. Next meeting will be July 5th at 4:30PM. The public is welcome.

Councilman Light – Parks & Playgrounds: Haven't met, next meeting July 20th @7pm.
Coordinated the Flags of Forgotten Soldiers with the Night's of Columbus for National Night Out. Helped in getting volunteers and donors for painting the Field of Dream sign. Great turn out for the Green Team Meeting, they are planning a Park clean up in Heritage Park in June 25th. American Legion Clam Bake will be held June 24th. Thanked Bill's Power Washing for donating services on Veteran's Park, Concession Stand and Gazebo.

Council President LaRotonda – Echoed thanking Bill for donating his time. Thanked everyone for coming out early so those who want can attend the Eight Grade Graduation tonight and congratulated all the graduates.

J. Thompson – City Administrator/CFO: Concert series begins June 25th. Concerts run for the next ten weeks – Sunday's at 7pm, minus the last one being at 4:30. Hooked on Fishing this Saturday. Been in contact with ACUA regarding yard waste delay.

E. Dennis – Grant applications are due July 1st, so working on getting all those over to D.O.T. Already completed survey for the Road Program with Streetscape Project on New Jersey Ave. Getting started on the Crestview Avenue sidewalk surveying and engineering. Once we have plans we will contact those directly impacted.

Councilman Light – Asked if there's any status on the raising of South Shore Road.

E. Dennis – No Update.

Carie Crone – Clerk Report: Monthly Report – May 2023

- Municipal Court: \$9,836.86
- Tax Office: \$2,009,712.53
- Construction Office: \$12,523
- Municipal Clerk's Office: \$18,375

Mayor Horton: Many of us this evening will be attending the Absecon Community School Graduation. This an event I look forward to every year. Congratulations to our Eight Graders and their families. Reminder to Residents, school children are out tomorrow, please drive carefully through our communities.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

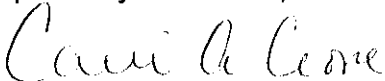
No Discussion

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 7/16/23