



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

Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk

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CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 18th, 2025 6:00 PM
MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Alex Clark, Linda Evans-Came in 6:07, Christine Parker, Mike Sykes, and Council President Richard DeRose

ABSENT: Nick LaRotonda

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Thomas Marrone, City Solicitor John Amenhauser Esq., City Clerk Carie Crone, Engineer Ed Dennis, Police Chief J.R. Laughlin.

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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.

- 129** A Resolution for the purchase of uniforms for the Police Department.
- 130** Authorizing the release of escrow funds posted by Rocco's Restaurant Group, for property known as 421 Absecon Blvd. (Home Depot) – Block 224, Lot 28.
- 131** Renewing Alcoholic Beverage Licenses within the City of Absecon.
- 132** Establishing the Mayoral Homeless Task Force for the City of Absecon.
- 133** Authorizing the City Engineer, Remington & Vernick, to provided Engineering Services for the 2025 Road Program.

- 134** Authorizing the submission of a grant application and the execution of a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation under the fiscal year 2026 Safe Streets to Transit Program for the Highland Boulevard Pedestrian Safety Improvements.
- 135** Authorizing the submission of a grant application and the execution of a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation under the fiscal year 2026 Municipal Aid Program for the reconstruction of Franklin Boulevard.

PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)

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

No Discussion

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

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$1,605,743.50

Motioned to accept the Bill List: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Sykes
Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans - Absent; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes; DeRose – Yes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 6/5/2025

Motioned to accept the Minutes: Councilman Clark; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker
Roll Call: Clark–Yes; Evans–Absent; LaRotonda–Absent; Light–Yes; Parker–Yes; Sykes– Yes-5/1; DeRose–Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Light – Public Works: Haven't met since last meeting. During last Public Works meeting we went over some of the Road Program projects for the year. Special thank you to the Public Works staff for how diligent and how hard they work. Appreciate how hard they work with a small group.

Councilman Clark – Finance: Didn't meet this month. Nothing to report.

Councilwoman Parker – Public Safety: Have not met since last meeting, nothing to report.

Chief Laughlin: Schools out in the next few days. Please make sure your kids are wearing helmets and know the proper operation on electric scooters. Riding bicycles, regular or electric, around Heritage Park is prohibited by Ordinance. Signs will be posted and violations will be issued, zero tolerance. Will be posting about the parks, bulkhead areas and Boat Ramp. The notice is a

reminder that those areas are under 24hr video surveillance. We now have AI facial recognition. Great tool for the detective bureau, can pick up on a still picture or video, and will speed up the process form major crimes. And will also be utilizing it for misconduct at the parks. Read regulations under City Code 250-1 (alcoholic beverages, intoxicated, noise and littering) and 250-2. (hours). Thanked everyone for keeping the community safe and enjoy the summer.

Council President DeRose – Will this be posted somewhere we can all share?

Chief Laughlin – We will be posted on Facebook.

Council President DeRose – Hooked on fishing this weekend.

Chief Laughlin – Yes, was moved from last weekend due to weather. Please remember that this and the items provided are for the kids.

Councilman Sykes – Parks and Playgrounds: Met last night. Nothing but compliments on our fields, the shape they're in the grass and the cleanliness – public works goes above and beyond. New I.D. process for coaching. National Night Out August 5th, 6-9pm. Creekfest will be September 21st, 3-7pm. Also talked about some lighting at the ballfields.

Chief Laughlin – National Night Out is completely free.

Councilwoman Evans – Community Affairs: Creekfest may be moving start time to 2pm after meeting with Sandy Morgan who is the coordinator for the food trucks, depending on how many trucks we can get, she feels they might want that extra hour due to the fee we charge. Had a productive meeting on Monday and have assignments for Council that we will distribute after the meeting.

Council President DeRose: American Legion Clam Bake will be this Saturday, at the Legion Post.

City Clerk: Monthly Report – May

- Municipal Clerk's Office: \$12,137.00
- Municipal Court: \$10,365.67
- Tax Office: \$4,331,181.41

Engineer Ed Dennis: Road program should be wrapped up in the last couple weeks, everything looks great. This Road Program is a good example of the City being really smart about where we invested in this work. We did Michigan Avenue to support the redevelopment of that site. Veteran's Way was done, where a new dispensary is opening. Fourth Avenue had a drainage problem, where we recently had three new homes being built and a new sub-division on its way, so the City recognized it was time to fix that problem. Supported economic development and new residence. 2025 Road Program will be abbreviated due to budget. Two Grant Applications are for Franklin Blvd. and sidewalk improvements on Highland Blvd. Crestview Avenue cut through is scheduled to be paved by the end of the week.

Mayor Thomas Marrone – Gave email for anyone who has any direct question for him they'd like to ask. Thanked Council for establishing the Task Force. We've been seeing an uptick of homeless on the streets of Absecon and having issues with other Municipalities and Counties sending their homeless to our hotels for an undetermined amount of time. And placement is where there is no opportunity to improve their life. First meeting is next week. Would like a Councilperson also to be on the Committee.

Councilwoman Parker – Volunteered to be on the committee.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

No Discussion

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 7-17-25