



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

Carie A. Crone, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Phone (609) 641-0663x101
Fax (609) 645-5098

CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2025 6:30 PM
MINUTES

FLAG SALUTE – Mayor

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Councilman LaRotonda

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

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

REGULAR MEETING

2025 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

- 12** Amending the Code of the City of Absecon, Chapter 69, Article IV, §69-35, Payment for Off-Duty Assignments.

Motioned for the first reading of Ordinance #12-2025: Councilman Light; Seconded: Councilwoman Parker

Discussion – Councilwoman Parker – This is for the Detail Rate for Officers, making it comparable to other towns.

Councilman Clark – This is going to be a two-step process, we're going to raise it \$5.00 this year and then \$5.00 in 2026. The money doesn't come from the City.

E. Dennis – The detail rate gets paid by the contractor.

Roll Call: Clark – Yes; Evans – Yes; LaRotonda – Absent; Light – Yes; Parker – Yes; Sykes – Yes; DeRose – Yes

This Ordinance will be posted, laid over, and published according to law. A Public Hearing, second, and final reading will be held on October 2nd, 2025.

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.

- 165 Accepting a volunteer Firefighter into the Absecon City Fire Department, namely Tevin Watson.
- 166 Authorizing a Share Services Agreement with the Count of Atlantic for Geographic Information System (GIS) Services.
- 167 Allowing for the Absecon Parent Teacher Organization to hold a City-Wide Yard Sale.
- 168 Authorizing the increase of Resolution #84-2025 by \$15,000 for vehicle maintenance and repairs.

PUBLIC PORTION – (Agenda items only)

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

No Discussion

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

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

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

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST – \$1,091,244.18

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes – 9/4/2025

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Light – Public Works: Haven't met this month. Thanked Public Works. The park and everything looked great for the 9-11 ceremony. Thank you to all our staff. Acknowledged the passing of a City supporter, his boss and owner of Calvi Electric, Mike Brestle.

Councilman Clark – Finance: Met tonight, went over outlook for the year so far and where we can make some changes. Starting in October, we're going to focus on our budget for 2026 and how we can make things better and get us in a better position moving forward.

Councilwoman Evans – Community Affairs – Creekfest on Sunday.

Councilwoman Parker – Public Safety: Hasn't met since the last meeting. Thanked all the First Responders for their help with the upcoming Creekfest, they have been helpful with the planning and I know will be helpful the day of to make it happen and make it safe. Thank you to the Police Department for the safe start of the school year.

Chief Laughlin – Creekfest, we'll be there to make sure everyone has a good time, but if you see something please say something, we're there to make sure everyone has a good time and is safe. Field of Dreams, 9/27, movie in the park.

Councilman Sykes – Parks and Playgrounds: Had the dedication of John Gorman Way at the Field of Dreams. New road put on the Charlie Norris Field House, donated by Veteran's Roofing. Still looking into finding a permanent structure in terms of bathrooms at Heritage Park.

Council President DeRose – September is Suicide Awareness Month please check on friends and neighbors.

Mayor Thomas Marrone: John Gorman Way and ALS Walk for Victoria Hunter. Great to see these citizens be recognized and honored. We've all been affected by suicide, I say it all the time if you need to talk, talk. My number is on the website, if you need to talk call me. Was unable to attend the last Planning Board Meeting, so would like to ask Councilwoman Parker to discuss some things that were decided.

Councilwoman Parker – 4th Avenue property owner came in 14 months ago with plans, he was asked to revise the plans with their professionals, that was done to our approval for a sub-division. They'll be putting two houses on the property. This is also where some of our City drainage work was done, so was good timing to get that done before they start. We did have some concerned citizens, but most of them were pretty satisfied with what they came back with.

City Clerk: Monthly Report – August

- Construction Office: \$8,023.00
- Municipal Clerk's Office: \$6,939.00
- Municipal Court: \$12,784.62
- Tax Office: \$5,091,608.57

Engineer Ed Dennis: 4th Avenue Sub-Division, drainage work timing was deliberate and an example of being developer friendly. Shore Road, still working on plans, almost there. A lot of projects in the works, almost all of them being funded by outside funding sources, Crosswalk sign on New Jersey and Highland, contractor on board, just waiting for County Road Opening Permit. 2025 Road Program going out to bid. Delaware Ave. project, being funded by a DOT Grant, is going out to bid at the same time. City Hall Lobby improvements, we received the bids, working with

the CFO to sort out the funding sources. Raised Crosswalk Project, being paid through a DOT Grant, is just about ready to go up to the DOT for their authorization and then out to bid. Significant funding through the NJ IBank, so will see some Resolution in the near future related to that funding.

Administrator Jessica Snyder – Retirement of a long-time employee effective September 30th, we wish him well in his retirement and looking forward to a new Official.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Allison Maxfield – 311 E. Wyoming – Wanted to participate in the Homeless Task Force meeting, but couldn't find any information on the City's website. Also tried to look for the Field of Dreams on the Website. Think Council is doing an incredible job, but I don't think there's information out there or linkage. Website isn't mobile friendly. Field of Dreams is housed and run by the City.

Council President DeRose – No, they own that field, it's an established non-profit organization that has that land and utilizes it, they're a private organization.

Councilman Clark – If you google Field of Dreams, their schedule usually comes right up. But wouldn't be linked to the City's website.

Mayor Marrone – We're in the process of trying to update and make the website more user friendly. Government websites are very expensive and we're on a tight budget. Discussed it with our new Administrator this morning about some difficulties we're having with the website, we're being as proactive as possible. Facebook would be easier, but you have no idea how difficult it is to do an official City Facebook page. There is a Facebook page done by Absecon Community Affairs and they post a lot of the events going on in town. Homeless Task Force did not meet this month, as of right now, it's not a public meeting. Right now, as the Resolution reads, only four residents can attend, but hoping as we grow it'll increase.

A. Maxfield – Suggests posting things on the Yeah, I'm from Absecon Facebook Page.

Councilwoman Parker – I was unfortunately blocked from that page, and was sharing all the community affairs events and didn't realize all my post were going into a pending status. I am in contact with the page administrator, had no problem posting prior to the summer, but will continue to try and get it worked out. Another great resource is the Gazette which is linked on the page.

Administrator Snyder – The main issue with the website is that it isn't mobile friendly, but if you go on a computer you can see all the information, but we are working forward to update our website going forward so it's mobile friendly.

Councilwoman Parker – Another great resource is our Police Department Facebook page and they also have a user-friendly website.

A. Maxfield – Don't think the mobile is such a big deal, think it's important to get flyers distributed, because a lot of seniors get involved in stuff.

Council President DeRose – The Senior Center does get notified of all events.

Bob Wenz – 711 Fifteenth Street – Would like to make a request for a stop sign be installed at the end of the bike path at New York and Fifteenth. In the past eighteen months or so a 3-way stop sign has been installed the other end of the bike path at the baseball fields.

Councilman Clark – The bike path slopes and when the kids are coming down there's really no slowing down. The people on New York are making a left on to Fifteenth and there's no stop sign there on Fifteenth, they can't see the kids coming down that hill and how fast they're coming. This is one of the reasons we were against some of the development projects they wanted on that side. Eddie and I had discussed this before, about putting in a stop sign on that corner.

B. Wenz – It's not a matter of "if" it's "when".

Councilman Clark – Especially when people are parked there for the football games. You can't see around. Definitely a sight issue.

B. Wenz – It's not the kids coming from that direction, it's the cars coming from Chelsea Road. And on the motorized bikes the kids are going 20-30mph. Someone coming around that corner can't see them, and the kids on the bikes aren't for the cars coming down New York Ave.

Councilman Sykes – This is an all times of the day, but when school lets out or there's an event it's crazy.

E. Dennis – This is easy, it's definitely warranted, so if you want to put it on the next agenda for introduction.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,


Carrie A. Crone, City Clerk

Approved: 10-2-25