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SUMMER 2025 - Issue No. 2

The Absecon Gazette



ABSECON IS HOME!

Updates from Mayor Tommy Marrone

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

Summer is finally here, after a cool rainy spring Mother Nature has sure turned on the heat. I hope you are enjoying all our small town has to offer in the summer weather – whether it is enjoying our beautiful parks and playgrounds, attending our concerts in the park, fishing and crabbing in the creek, or just spending time with friends and family at a backyard BBQ.

As we embrace the summer season, I want to share a few quick updates on some important issues facing the City.

Firstly, the 2025 Final/2026 Preliminary Tax Bills are out in the mail. This year we were left no choice but to increase the municipal portion of the tax rate. As with everything costs are rising, however, due to prior practices the City hadn't made the appropriate plans for the future. We were left with little to no surplus and a gloomy financial outlook. We (The City Council, our professionals, and myself) worked tirelessly to bridge the budgetary gaps and make a plan for the future.

Fortunately, the State of New Jersey budget was just approved fully funding programs such as Anchor, Senior Freeze and StayNJ, which offset property taxes. If you need more information please reach out to our Tax Office for more assistance.

Additionally, one of the most pressing challenges continues to be homelessness in our community. This population was placed here by other cities in South Jersey, some not even in Atlantic County. This is a not a problem with easy answers, but it's one that has our full attention.

This month we launched the Mayoral Homeless Task Force, bringing together residents, our police department, and our governing body to craft real, lasting solutions. Our goal is clear; we want to make sure all of the homeless in Absecon are connected to social services and receiving all the care they need. It's our goal to keep our streets safe and our public areas welcoming to our residents.

All of this hard work won't happen overnight, but we are committed to our citizens! If you'd like to get involved or share ideas, we welcome your voice.

Thank you for being part of this community, one that cares so much....

Tommy Marrone, Mayor

City Engineer >>>

Edward D. Dennis, Jr. Remington & Vernick Engineers



The City of Absecon recently completed several infrastructure projects that reflect our shared commitments to safety, quality of life, and economic growth in our community. A new sidewalk was installed on Crestview Avenue to improve pedestrian safety for those walking to and from our parks and schools. To enhance our recreation amenities, the Pitney Park path was extended with connections to the community garden and Crestview Avenue playground, complete with 25 new trees along the path. The City repaved Calderon Avenue, Michigan Avenue, and Veteran's Way, all of which provide access to new businesses making major investments in Absecon. And with several new

homes recently built (and more planned) in the Fourth Avenue neighborhood, the City addressed a longstanding drainage issue for the betterment of our current and future residents.

These projects represent a smart and strategic capital improvement plan that ensures every dollar spent on infrastructure generates the greatest return for all who live, work, and play in Absecon. Looking forward, we have several exciting projects in the works. New raised crosswalks will be installed throughout the City to help slow down traffic. A new flashing crosswalk sign will be installed on New Jersey Avenue at Highland Boulevard to further improve safety at that intersection. The entrance to City Hall will be

upgraded to improve accessibility for all visitors. And lastly, we are in the final stages of working with the County Engineer's office to schedule construction on the Shore Road project, which will raise the roadway to significantly reduce flooding during storms and high tides.

Since 2023, the City has secured over \$4 million in outside/grant funding to help pay for these and other capital projects throughout our community.

Edward D. Dennis, Jr., PE, PP, CME
Remington & Vernick Engineers

Emergency Management >>>

We ended June on a warm and dry note, and I hope all of you took protective measures when the temperature reached 102 degrees. Early season heatwaves can take a toll on the elderly; sick and very young. To safely cope with additional heatwaves please look at this site for very good heat-safety details: www.heat.gov.

We are one month into the Hurricane season and our concern is now shifting to the potential tropical cyclone that will form and move up the eastern seaboard and affect Absecon. Our Police; Fire; Public works and Emergency Medical Services stand ready to coordinate and work with our partners in neighboring townships to keep citizens safe.

As the Emergency Management Coordinator for Absecon, it has been my pleasure to serve my community, and I am in daily contact with our first responders who are ready for any situation that may arise.

One of our biggest concerns for Absecon residents is the threat of coastal flooding. In order to check the latest information about flooding and other weather concerns please go to this link: www.weather.gov for the state of New Jersey. And since we are in the Hurricane season the best source is: www.nhc.noaa.gov.

Regards and stay safe and healthy,

Jim Eberwine



The City of Absecon recently purchased more trash cans and pet waste disposal stations thanks to funding from a GRANT through New Jersey Clean Communities. www.njclean.org

We are doing our part but we need your help to KEEP ABSECON CLEAN! Please remember to use waste and recycling containers at our Boat-ramp/Bulkhead, Parks, and Recreational Fields!



Community Events & Tips

POLICE CHIEF JAMES LAUGHLIN



Residents and Visitors of Absecon:

As we move into the heart of the summer season, the Absecon Police Department would like to remind everyone of a few important ordinances and safety guidelines to ensure an enjoyable and safe environment for all who live in or visit our community.

Bulkhead and Boat Ramp – E. Faunce Landing Road

The bulkhead area, including the boat ramp and docks, is under 24-hour video surveillance. Please be advised that, under City Ordinance 250-1, the following activities are strictly prohibited:

- * Consumption of alcoholic beverages
- * Being under the influence of intoxicating substances
- * Creating noise that disturbs others
- * Littering

Additionally, in accordance with Ordinance 250-2, all parks and playgrounds are closed from 11:00 PM to sunrise, with the exception of individuals utilizing the boat ramp. Officers will be conducting regular patrols in this area. Those found to be in violation may be cited and asked to leave the park.

Heritage Park Pathway – Prohibited Activities

The walking path at Heritage Park is designated for pedestrians. Bicycles, skateboards, scooters, and the increasingly popular e-bikes and e-scooters are not permitted on the path. This restriction is in

place to ensure the safety of those using the path for walking and jogging. Please help us prevent avoidable accidents by respecting this ordinance.

Pedestrian Safety and Crosswalk Enforcement

To promote safer streets, our officers have received a grant to enforce crosswalk laws throughout the city. All pedestrians are urged to use designated crosswalks when navigating roadways. Taking a few extra steps to reach a marked intersection is a simple way to stay safe and avoid unnecessary risk. Officers will be issuing citations to both pedestrians and motorists who violate these laws.

Fire Zones and Handicapped Parking

Fire zones and handicapped parking spaces are designated for critical and specific use. These areas must remain unobstructed at all times to allow access for emergency vehicles and to support individuals with mobility needs. Vehicles found parked in these areas without proper authorization will be ticketed or towed. We ask for everyone's cooperation in respecting these regulations.

On behalf of the Absecon Police Department, I thank you for your continued support and partnership. Let us all work together to make this summer safe, respectful, and enjoyable for everyone in the City of Absecon.

Sincerely,

Chief J.R. Laughlin



SAVE THE DATE >>>

**Fall Shred Day & Community Clean up
October 18th 9:00AM - Noon**



POSTPONED:

*Christmas in July
Movie in the Park*

***New date to be
announced for
September***

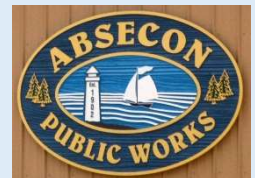


National Night Out

**August 5th, 2025
6:00 – 9:00 PM**

@ Heritage Park

**Absecon's Fall
Curbside Leaf
Collection
Begins November 3rd**



**Place loose leaves only
NO branches or other
debris please!**

Thank you to everyone
who attended our
Property Tax Relief Event
on May 19th, 2025.



Division of Taxation

Especially the
**State of New Jersey
Division of Taxation**
for their assistance!

Keep an eye out...

for the **NEW City of Absecon Facebook**
page and our new and improved website:

www.abseconnj.gov



>>> Greetings from City Council

School is out and summer is in full swing. It is always exciting to see everyone enjoying our community outside, attending concerts in the park, and all that our businesses and organizations offer. Council would like to congratulate the American Legion on their successful Clam Bake and the VFW on their 4th of July BBQ. The flounder have been biting and crabbing has been great! Get outside and enjoy Absecon's waterfront!

Speaking of waterfront, we are excited to announce the official formation of the Absecon Waterfront Advisory Committee. This committee, made up of volunteer residents, will be tasked with advising Council on all policy as it pertains to public waterways/coastline/boat ramp. We are excited to see this committee's work and the expertise they will bring to protecting our waterfront.

As tax bills are mailed out, we wanted to remind you that Council is committed to full transparency when it comes to your tax dollars. If you missed the FIRST ever Absecon Council Budget PowerPoint presentation, please reach out and Council President DeRose will walk you through the process and answer any questions you may have.

Summer is a special time in Absecon and we hope you enjoy all that our community offers. Please do so in a fun and safe manner. Most importantly, shop local and support the businesses that call Absecon home. We are grateful for the committed businesses and all that they do to support Absecon.

As always, we are here for you. Have questions? We got answers! Just reach out and share your concerns.

coming soon >>>

In OUR Next Issue:

*Holiday Community Events
Fall Volunteer Opportunities
2026 New Year Updates*

Construction Official >>>

**Is your property located
in the Special Flood
Hazard Area?**

Are you planning an improvement project for the home or yard? Check with the City Construction Office for the requirements of a Floodplain Development Permit.

A Floodplain Development permit may be required even if a construction or zoning permit is not. They are mandated to maintain the City's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and penalties may be assessed for non-compliance.

Concerts in the Park Summer 2025

SUNDAY'S @ 7PM

JULY 13TH
TONY PONTARI

JULY 20TH
JUMP THE LINE

JULY 27TH
T.K. AND THE HOWLERS

AUGUST 3RD
MOTTS CREEK PICKERS

AUGUST 10TH
DANNY EYER

AUGUST 17TH
BRANDON IRELAND

SATURDAY @ 7PM

AUGUST 23RD
SO. JERSEY WIND ENSEMBLE