

**CITY OF SALEM
MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
OF OCTOBER 5, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Salem was called to order by Council President Karen Roots. The meeting took place in the Municipal Building located at 1 New Market Street at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Council President Karen Roots, Councilpersons, Ruth Carter, Earl Gage, Charles Hassler, Horace Johnson, Lydia Thompson, and James Waddington. Council President announced that a quorum was present. Also in attendance were Mayor Charles Washington, Jr., Solicitor David Puma, and City Clerk Kathleen L. Keen. Councilman Vaughn Groce was absent. CFO David Crescenzi joined the meeting at 7:10.

STATEMENT OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

NOTICE OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, AS REQUIRED BY N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 ET SEQ., THE "OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT", HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT OF A SCHEDULE ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION ON JANUARY 1ST, 2015 SETTING FOR THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF ALL THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM.

INVOCATION Pastor Everet Dickson of the 1st United Methodist Church of Salem, 152 Yorke Street provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Gage to adopt the minutes of the September 21, 2015 Council Meeting and Closed Session. Motion carried 6-0, with Councilman Johnson abstaining from the vote.

COMMUNICATIONS/APPLICATIONS/REPORTS:

Councilman Hassler motioned to approve an Entertainment Application for Maleek Brown to host a one day softball tournament on October 17th from 11am-6pm at the Little League Baseball Field. Councilwoman Carter seconded the motion. Councilman Hassler suggested contacting the Little League to assure the field would be available. It was noted final approval is contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Insurance Motion carried 7-0.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE 1510

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 225, SECTION 37
HANDICAPPED PARKING ZONE, FOR A HANDICAPPED PARKING SIGN TO BE
PLACED AT 216 CHURCH STREET**

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED, by the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem, and State of New Jersey, that Chapter 225, Section 37, Schedule "11" be amended as follows:

A Handicapped Parking Sign be placed at **216 Church Street**, the residence of Lisa Aborn.

ORD 1510

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

Introduced: September 21, 2015
Published: September 29, 2015
Public Hearing: October 5, 2015
Final Adoption: October 5, 2015
Final Publication: October 9, 2015

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Councilman Hassler motioned take from the table Resolution 2015-134, Councilman Gage seconded the motion.

**RESOLUTION 2015-134
A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE 2014 ANNUAL AUDIT**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year ended December 31, 2014 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled Findings and Questioned Costs; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled Findings and Questioned Costs, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52 - to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52 - A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his/her office."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Salem, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-138

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION REGARDING THE USDA COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT TO PURCHASE POLICE VEHICLES

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159) provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem, New Jersey hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year

2015 in the sum of \$37,726.00 which is now available from the USDA Community Facilities Grant in the amount of \$37,726.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum of \$37,726.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption “USDA Community Facilities Grant” and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above is the result of funds from an USDA Grant in the amount of \$37,726.00

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-139

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SALEM TO OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT AT FRANKLIN SAVINGS AND LOAN ENTITLED “MUNICIPAL COURT POAA”

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Salem in the State of New Jersey that David Crescenzi, CFO is hereby authorized to open and maintain a bank account at Franklin Savings and Loan under the account name of “**MUNICIPAL COURT POAA**”. The authorized signers will be Charles Washington Jr., Mayor and David Crescenzi, CFO. The Mayor and CFO are authorized to sign any and all documents required by the Bank in connection with the opening or maintenance of this account.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter		X	X			
E. Gage			X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

RESOLUTION 2015-140

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOUSING IDENTIFICATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it necessary to solicit request for proposals/qualifications from prospective companies regarding abandoned and unfit properties throughout the city;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMOM COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM that the City Clerk and Solicitor are authorized to coordinate and prepare specifications for solicitation of proposals/qualifications in relation to services required by the City of Salem for the identification, registration, and processing of abandoned and unfit properties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that final authorization and execution of said services is hereby contingent upon final approval by the Director of Local Government Services.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage			X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson		X	X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

**RESOLUTION 2015-141
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO SOLICIT
PROPOSALS/QUALIFICATIONS FOR SPECIAL LEGAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it necessary to solicit request for proposals/qualifications from prospective firms regarding special legal services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMOM COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM that the City Clerk and Solicitor are authorized to coordinate and prepare specifications for solicitation of proposals/qualifications in relation to Special Legal Services required by the City of Salem in relation to litigation regarding the City's Surface Water Treatment Plant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that final authorization and execution of said services is hereby contingent upon final approval by the Director of Local Government Services.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration: President Roots no report; the next Administration meeting will be October 13th at 5:30.

Public Safety: Councilman Gage no meeting to report, though a police officer did submit a resignation.

Public Works: Councilman Groce was absent; Councilman Gage reported work on “mud diggers ditch began today”.

Community Service: President Roots no report; the next Community Services meeting will be held on October 13th at 6:00.

Human Services: Councilman Hassler no report.

City Property/Capital: Councilwoman Carter no report; the next meeting will be October 13th at 6:30.

Redevelopment: Councilman Waddington reminded everyone of the SUFS dinner on October 14th. He noted at the redevelopment committee meeting SUFS expressed interest in the properties the city will receive from the recent In Rem foreclosure. He spoke of a joint meeting with the Historic Preservation Committee recently to discuss the Architectural Survey report. Lastly he mentioned a property that backs up to the Olive Street Garden that needs attention. The next meeting will be held on October 19th. President Roots asked if he spoke with his committee regarding extending the Historic District east to Yorke and Keasbey Streets and west to Front Street. Councilman Waddington noted there was some discussion. He also asked if council would like to have Watson & Henry Architect’s present their findings/report. President Roots acknowledged and informed Councilman Waddington to please schedule.

Neighborhood Initiatives: Councilman Johnson no report. Councilman Hassler noted the Salem City Community United Group recently cleaned up a property on East Broadway, and did a fabulous job; noting the supplied a dumpster, and the City Trailer was also provided for their use.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Washington read the following proclamation.

PROCLAMATION PUT THE BRAKES ON FATALITIES DAY OCTOBER 10, 2015

October 10, 2015, has been declared **Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day** by the Common Council of the City of Salem in the County of Salem, and the State of New Jersey;

WHEREAS, Across the nation, traffic crashes caused approximately 32,675(est.) fatalities in 2014, and are the leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 34; and,

WHEREAS, In New Jersey, 556 individuals lost their lives in traffic crashes in 2015; and,

WHEREAS, Alcohol-related crashes accounted for 27.0 percent of the State’s traffic fatalities, while 26 percent of all fatal crashes involved traveling at unsafe speeds; and,

WHEREAS, Motorcyclists, bicycle riders and pedestrians face increased risks on New Jersey's roadways, as people opt for alternative modes of transportation; and,

WHEREAS, 60 motorcyclists, 11 bicyclists and 170 pedestrians were killed in New Jersey in traffic-related crashes in 2015; and,

WHEREAS, Safer driving behaviors such as buckling up, every ride; obeying posted speed limits; stopping for pedestrians in crosswalks and using crosswalks when walking; avoiding aggressive driving behaviors; never driving impaired; wearing proper safety gear while riding a motorcycle or bicycle; and, focusing solely on driving by avoiding distractions, can dramatically reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and deaths;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Salem, in the County of Salem and State of New Jersey do hereby proclaim **October 10, 2015, Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day**, and call upon everyone to put these lifesaving behaviors into practice to improve safety on the roadways in our community and throughout the State.

Officially recorded this 5th day of October in the year of our lord two thousand fifteen.

MAYORAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Washington thanked Everet Dickerson for delivering the Invocation this evening, reiterating the City Council will continue in this direction at all meetings. He talked about the curfew hours for Halloween, and the ongoing Downtown Beautification project on Broadway. Lastly he spoke of abandoned properties within the city.

NEW BUSINESS: CFO Crescenzi spoke about the Best Practices Checklist, informing Council he would be handing them out for their review. Councilman Gage reminded everyone to RSVP to the Fireman's Ball, and discussed the possibility of another CLG Grant to help with the work needed at 1 New Market Street.

PUBLIC PORTION:

April Dorsey-Crossing Guard for the City addressed council about issues she has had with parents and children while at her job. She spoke of a recent incident she feels could have been handled better by the police department. She has resigned her position, and is now being denied unemployment. President Roots, asked Councilman Gage, Mayor Washington, and Chief Pelura to schedule a meeting with Ms. Dorsey.

Rod Miller of W. Broadway asked when his block would be deemed historic and included in the historic district. President Roots and Councilman Waddington responded to Mr. Miller explaining the process to him. Councilman Waddington noted it will be looked into. Mr. Miller then asked who the council liaison to the Housing Authority was; stating West Side Court is full of trash. Council President Roots noted it was Mr. Groce whom was absent this evening.

With no further requests for public comment, Councilman Hassler made a motion to close the Public Portion of the meeting. Councilman Gage seconded the motion and all were in favor. Councilman Hassler motioned to convene into Executive Session, Councilman Gage seconded the motion and all were in favor. The regular portion of the meeting ended at 7:45pm.

RESOLUTION 2015-142
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SALEM

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b permits a public body to go into a closed session during a public meeting to discuss certain matters;

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is necessary to go into a closed session to discuss certain matters relating to the items as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Salem that the Council will go into closed session to discuss the following, in accordance with the aforesaid provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, after which it will reconvene in the public:

a. PERSONNEL

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of the closed session will be made available to the public when the need for privacy no longer exists.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage		X	X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler	X		X			
H. Johnson			X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

With a Motion by Councilman Hassler, seconded by Councilman Johnson, and all in favor, Council came out of Closed Session at 8:00. The following then took place.

RESOLUTION 2015-143
A RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE APPOINTMENT OF RYAN PICOU TO THE
POSITION OF CLASS II SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER OF THE CITY OF SALEM
POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Salem has a need to hire Class II Special Police Officers, and has conducted an extensive search through advertisement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor wishes to hire Ryan Picou to the position of Class II Special Police Officer of the City of Salem Police Department; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:61-4(f) the Council has the right of advice and consent with respect to such hiring; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Salem, hereby concurs with the appointment of Ryan Picou to the position of Class II Special Police Officer and accordingly a waiver of the City’s residency requirement is necessary and proper and is hereby granted in accordance with this appointment;

NOW THEREFOR BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Salem, County of Salem and State of New Jersey, hereby consents to the appointment of Ryan Picou to the position of Class II Special Officer of the City of Salem Police Department at a salary of \$20.00 per hour and an effective starting date of October 13, 2015.

COUNCIL	MOVED	SECONDED	Y	N	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Carter			X			
E. Gage	X		X			
V. Groce						X
C. Hassler			X			
H. Johnson		X	X			
L. Thompson			X			
J. Waddington			X			
K. Roots			X			

With no further business before Council, Councilman Hassler motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The council meeting ended at 8:10pm

Respectfully submitted:

Approved: October 19, 2015

Kathleen L. Keen
Kathleen L. Keen, RMC City Clerk